

4-21-2008

## Current, April 21, 2008

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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# The Current

April 21,  
2008

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VOLUME 41, ISSUE 1248

## INSIDE



### UMSL scientist wins Academy Award

Sonya Bahar, director of the Center for Neurodynamics was honored by the Academy of Science for her work.

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### Hitting the trail . . .

Figure out all the twists and turns of the new Wayne Goode bike trail.

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Rides, prizes and music: Mirthday had it all. Check out the concert review of Gym Class Heroes at the Touhill PAC.

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### Is there a money tree on campus grounds?

Take a look at part 4 in a 5 part series on what it would take to bring UMSL to Division I status.

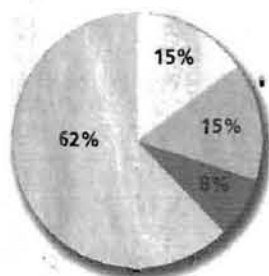
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## ON THE WEB

### The Current online.com

#### Web poll results:

Who do you think will win SGA elections?



- Ritter, Ryan and Talluto
- Ritter, Ryan and Hall
- Ritter, Cowan and Talluto
- Ritter, Cowan and Hall

**This week's question:**  
What was your favorite part of Mirthday?

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# Ritter, Cowan, Hall win SGA elections

By **CARRIE FASISKA & RYAN SCHERR**

Managing Editor & News Editor

The new executive members of UM-St. Louis' Student Government Association were announced at midnight Saturday among bouquets of red and gold balloons in the Pilot House.

Just 11 votes shy of the record total vote count for SGA elections, 1,003 students cast their votes last week.

The current SGA President Bryan Goers announced the winners of the race for the top spots on next year's executive board.

Lone presidential candidate GraceMarie Ritter, sophomore, lib-

eral studies, won the election with 817 votes.

Jessica Cowan, junior, psychology, won the vice-presidential race with 555 votes. Themon Ryan Jr., junior, media studies, was a close runner up with 406 votes.

Dorian Hall, junior, accounting, won his bid for comptroller with 601 votes. Peter Talluto, junior, finance, lost with 349 votes.

"I just want to thank everyone for voting and for their support and help," Hall said.

"We have very qualified people in office," Ritter said after speaking to the students at the announcement party.

The inauguration date has not been set for the new SGA executives.



**GraceMarie Ritter**  
2008-2009 SGA President



**Jessica Cowan**  
2008-2009 SGA Vice President



**Dorian Hall**  
2008-2009 SGA Comptroller

Ritter and Cowan have set goals to develop an athletic relations committee, create a weekly newsletter about campus events, promote student and alumni relations, continue to work for a resident parking pass

and promote involvement in community service events.

Goers said he recommends the new SGA executive members should "continue the SGA cabinet." The SGA cabinet was created this school

## Quick Read

In addition to Ritter, Cowan and Hall grabbing the top SGA spots, the ASUM and Metro pass referendums both passed as well.

year and consists of the 15 most involved organizations on campus. Goers said the cabinet was a "big help to get people for events."

Also, at the April 2 meeting, a survey on the shuttle bus service was presented to the SGA. Goers said it "is too late in the school year to take any actions on the results," which showed the shuttle service lacking in effectiveness.

See SGA, page 3



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Kanan Pujji (RIGHT), sophomore, business administration, plays the drums during Mirthday while Robbie Haupt, sophomore, communication, dances all day long in a grass miniskirt.

## MIRTHDAY 2008

# Moving to the beat of a mirthful drum

By **JUSTI MONTAGUE**

Copy Editor

While the theme of Wednesday's Mirthday was "Under the Sea," more than 50 student organizations held activities under the sun. University Program Board sponsored the annual celebration. Many students and members of the community turned out to attend the event and show their support for UM-St. Louis.

"The Mirthday event was a great way for the students to see all of the active student organizations and remember that we aren't just here for classes, we're here for the whole college experience," said GraceMarie Ritter, newly elected Student Government Association president.

"[Our goal for Mirthday is] welcoming students into the spring with a day of happiness," said Themon Ryan Jr., executive chair for UPB.

## Quick Read

The 2008 Mirthday's theme was "Under the Sea," in honor of the new Triton mascot. University Program Board annually sponsors the daylong carnival.

The celebration showcased around 50 booths, sponsored by a variety of student organizations, from the Catholic Newman Center, to Students Today Alumni Tomorrow, to the Residential Housing Association. The activities ranged from riding the carnival rides or grabbing a snow cone to visiting the dunking booth or signing up to decorate a recycling bin.

The theme for Mirthday 2008 was "Under the Sea," meant to celebrate the new mascot. However, the underexposure of the theme left some students confused.

See MIRTHDAY, page 3

## Study suggests changes for UMSL shuttle system

By **CRAIG BESAND**

Staff Writer

A study by the UM-St. Louis Center for Transportation concluded that many of the problems with the shuttle system are due to the lack of information which leads to instability.

A graduate research assistant from the center gave a presentation during the April 2 Student Government Association meeting on the shuttle bus service on campus. The presentation focused on the survey of what problems the system has and what solutions can be asserted to make the shuttles more efficient.

Comparative deficiencies that the study found were unstable scheduling, inefficient routing and the unavailability of information.

"By making graphs we found how the routing stops are not used. The shuttles make a lot of stops that students do not utilize," said Esha Christie, graduate research assistant for the Center for Transportation Studies.

The survey showed that the stops t h a t

students used the most were at the Main Circle, Mansion Hills, Oak Hall, Provincial House and the University Meadows.

The study also pointed out the failure to consider certain factors with the shuttle routes. Demand patterns are different at each stop.

"Shuttles will stop randomly at buildings where there is no scheduled stop, like the music building," Christie said.

The hourly demand varies throughout the day. Most students utilize the shuttle between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Most of the improvements that can be made could stem from the use of relatively simple and inexpensive technologies, according to the study. Such improvements would involve the use of schedules, routes and maps online. Other improvements include text messages and a phone number to call to receive schedules and notify students of delays.

The company that runs the bus system is Shuttleport, a subsidiary of the French-based transportation company Veolia.

"They are capable of providing a good service, but we don't have the technology for the system to run efficiently," said Ray Mundy, founder and director of the Center for Transportation Studies.

See SHUTTLE, page 3



## All shook up! Earthquake wakes up, shakes up St. Louis

By **PAUL HACKBARTH**

Editor-in-Chief

An earthquake that measured 5.2 on the Richter scale rattled UM-St. Louis and surrounding areas early Friday morning, despite its epicenter being more than 150 miles away, near Belmont in southeastern Illinois.

At 4:37 a.m. Friday, the earth shook, waking up some UM-St. Louisians, like Jonathan Lidgus, assistant Director of Residential Life. "My dog woke me up first and jumped on the bed about 10 seconds after it hit," Lidgus said. "The room started shaking, and I really didn't know what was going on because it so early in the morning. After a while, I had established it was an earthquake. I hadn't been through one before."

Adam Richter, senior, graphic design, said the earthquake woke him up. "I got up and was walking around and I felt the room sway," he said. This was the first time he had been through an earthquake as well.

Michael Fix, astronomy and physics lecturer, teaches an introductory geology class, and as early as three minutes after the quake, he received e-mails from his students asking whether what they just felt was an earthquake.

"I thought at first one of our cats got caught under the bed," Fix said. "We have big cats so it's not possible for them to do that."

The earthquake caused no damage and no injuries were reported at

UM-St. Louis.

An aftershock with the magnitude of 4.6 was reported at 10:14 a.m. on Friday. Another aftershock measured at 4.5 was felt Monday 12:38 a.m.

According to an e-mail sent out by Lt. John Schupp, the police department did a cursory inspection of buildings and found no damage or injuries.

Fix, who lectured on earthquakes in his class last week, explained that earthquakes are caused by a release of energy stored in rocks, and over a long period of time, the energy turns into stress on the rock. The energy, called elastic strain energy, is similar to energy stored from bending a tree branch or stretching a rubber band.

"There's a limit to how much it can store and when it exceeds the elastic limit, the material breaks and it releases the energy quickly. In the case of an earthquake, there is a breaking or rock," he said.

The earth has pre-existing cracks, called faults, and friction will usually hold the system of faults in place, but sometimes two tectonic plates slide and slip, causing a release of energy, Fix said. In other earthquakes, a new fracture is formed which causes the earth to shake.

In the Midwest, the faults are buried under thousands of feet of rock, whereas in California, the faults show up on the surface line, a difference that Fix said makes it hard to study the faults in the Midwest.

In places like Japan and California, scientists can easily study fault

lines and forecast, not predict, earthquakes by measuring how fast strain builds up in the rocks, but forecasting in Missouri and Illinois is harder since the faults are hidden.

The earthquake on Friday came out of the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone, different than the New Madrid Zone in the Missouri Bootheel.

"This zone has spurred the two most powerful earthquakes that I've been through. In 1968, there was one that measured 5.4 in the same general area."

Friday's earthquake measured 5.2 on the Richter scale, but as Fix explained, most seismologists are trading that scale in for the Moment Magnitude scale from zero to 10, which is based on readings from a seismogram, total surface area that broke and how much energy is stored in the rocks.

"In the Richter scale, there are deficiencies in the high end [7 and above] that don't do as good as telling the true difference in energies that earthquakes release," Fix said. "[The Richter scale] is based on the height of the amplitude of the waves on the seismogram."

He said the difference of one point on the scale equals waves that are 10 times higher and an increase in the amount of energy given off by a factor of 32.

While the difference between a 4 and 5 on the scale is 32 times more energy, the difference between a 5 and 7 is about 32 multiplied by 32 or 1,024 times more energy.

Stay Current  
with this  
week's weather

**Monday**

Hi/Low: 76/61  
Precip: 20%

**Tuesday**

Hi/Low: 78/57  
Precip: 40%

**Wednesday**

Hi/Low: 75/58  
Precip: 10%

**Thursday**

Hi/Low: 72/61  
Precip: 40%

**Friday**

Hi/Low: 65/46  
Precip: 60%

**Saturday**

Hi/Low: 64/46  
Precip: 20%

**Sunday**

Hi/Low: 66/52  
Precip: 10%

Weather predictions  
taken from www.  
weather.com



CAMPUS  
CRIMELINE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

STEALING OVER500- PARKING LOT  
AA-FINE ARTS BLINDING

Sometime around 2:15 a.m., three cars that were parked on the parking lot were damaged, and items stolen from inside. The suspect(s) apparently used a rock to break the locks of the vehicles and then once inside, stole items including a digital camera and an iPod. One of the victims had just checked the vehicles at about 2 a.m. and retrieved an item from inside. The vehicles were processed for evidence and those items will be analyzed to determine a suspect.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

PROPERTY DAMAGE -  
MILLENNIUM NORTH GARAGE

Sometime between 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., person(s) unknown damaged the victim's vehicle. The victim reported that his car was parked on the lowest level of the garage, and the exterior door lock to his vehicle was tampered with, however the vehicle was not entered, and nothing was taken. There are no suspects in this incident.

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is open 24 hours a day. If you see anyone that looks suspicious or out of place you are encouraged to call the UM-St. Louis Police at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police.

CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do no regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the April 14 issue of The Current, the following corrections need to be made:

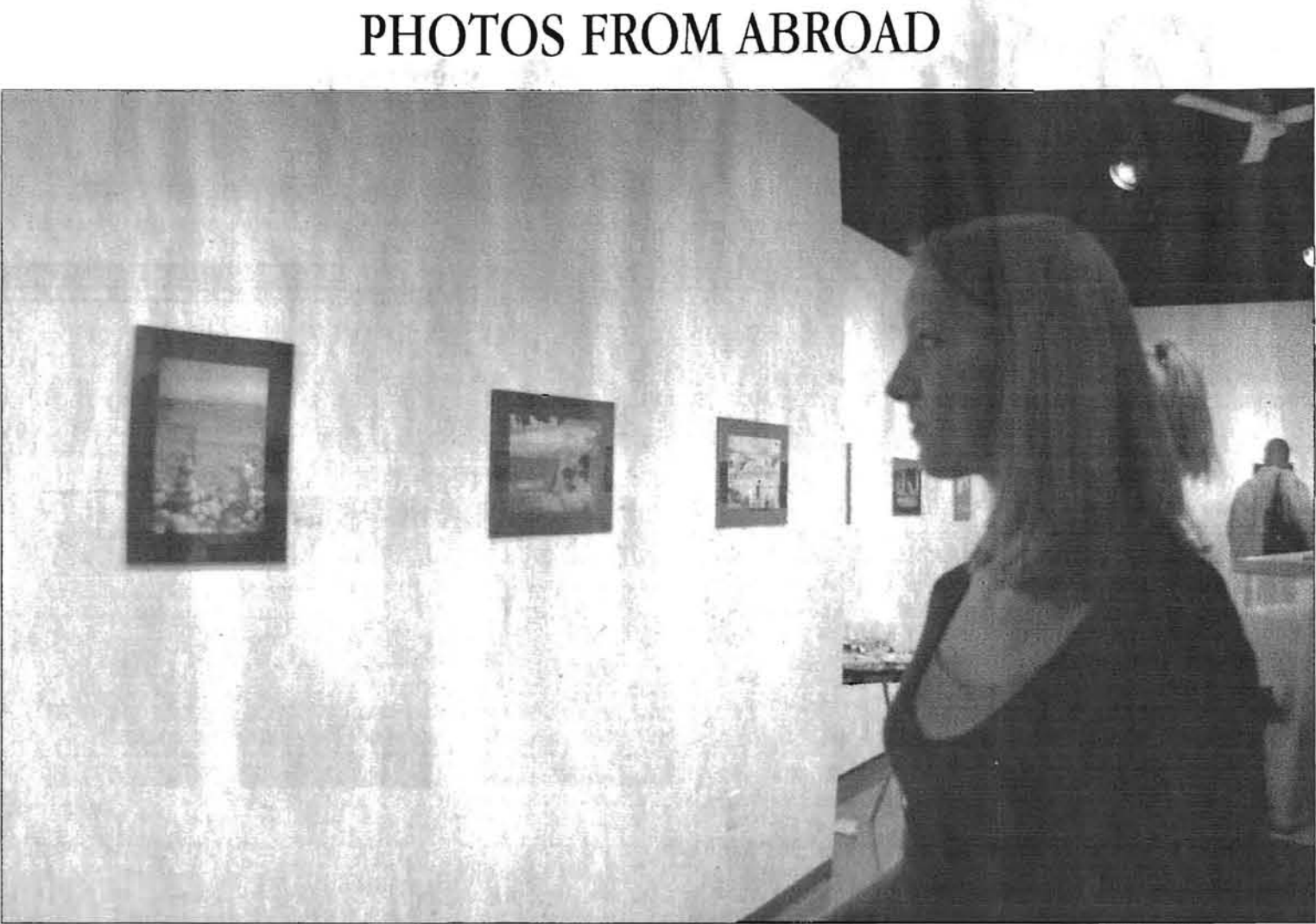
The picture of Ryan Lewis and Robert Clem preparing pizzas at Dewey's Pizza was taken at the 559 North & South Road location, not the 124 N. Kirkwood Rd. location of Dewey's.

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The Current is  
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- Business  
Manager
- Managing  
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letter and resume  
to thecurrent@  
umsl.edu or drop  
it by our office  
in the MSC by  
Thursday, May 1  
at 5 p.m.



Darcy Johnson looks at the photo entries at the third annual International Photography exhibit, which opened April 14 in Gallery Visio. The show is sponsored by the Center for International Studies and runs until April 24.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, APRIL 21

Chemistry Club

"Structure Specific Recognition and Cleavage of RNA by Metal Ion Complexes" presented by Janet Morrow, professor, bio-organic and bioinorganic chemistry at The State University of New York at Buffalo. Coffee at 3:45 p.m. followed by presentation at 4 p.m. in Benton Hall 451. For more information call 5334.

Mathematics

"Improving U.S. Mathematics Education: Myths and Realities" by Hyman Bass, the Roger Lyndon College Professor of Mathematics and Professor of Mathematics Education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the MSC. For more information call 5789.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Concert for Kirkwood

University Orchestra and University Singers Performance Music by Barbara Harbach and Johannes Brahms Featuring soloists Stella Markou & Steve Morton with conductor James Richards This performance is presented free of charge and dedicated to the Kirkwood community in honor of recent dramatic and tragic civic events. 7:30 p.m. at Kirkwood United Methodist Church 201 W. Adams Avenue in Kirkwood. For more information call 5980.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Multicultural  
Awards Day

Concurrent talks on exploring our ancestral roots and making the connections. LaDonna Garner, genealogist, Jacqueline Lewis-Harris, director of CHOCD and Dora Griffin, UMSL staff member. Each will bring information on tracing ancestral roots and a look at global DNA project, family history. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the MSC. For more information call 6807.

Political Science  
Meeting

Political Science Academy Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Professor Andy Glassberg. For more information

Green River  
Series

From baseball's all-time Iron Man, Cal Ripken, Jr., gives us his insights on hard work and success that can be applied on and off the field, based on stories from his exhilarating career in baseball in his book, "Get in the Game: 8 Elements of Perseverance That Make the Difference." 7:15 St. Louis Public Library - Central Branch, 1301 Olive Street. For more information call 4898.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Denim Day

"Denim Day A Stand Against Rape" This awareness event is sponsored by Health, Wellness & Counseling Services, UMSL Dept. of Nursing, Missouri Foundation for Health, and WAVES peer educators. Promotional items, awareness, education and empowerment materials will be provided. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Nosh. For more information call 5414.

UMSL Idol

"American Idol" the UMSL-GC way! Private Auditions are open to students, faculty and staff will be held in MSC 313 at 6 p.m. 12 semi-finalists will be chosen to perform before an audience and a panel of five judges in the Pilot House at 7 p.m. Three finalists are chosen to perform one last time for a chance to win cash.

Programming  
Meeting

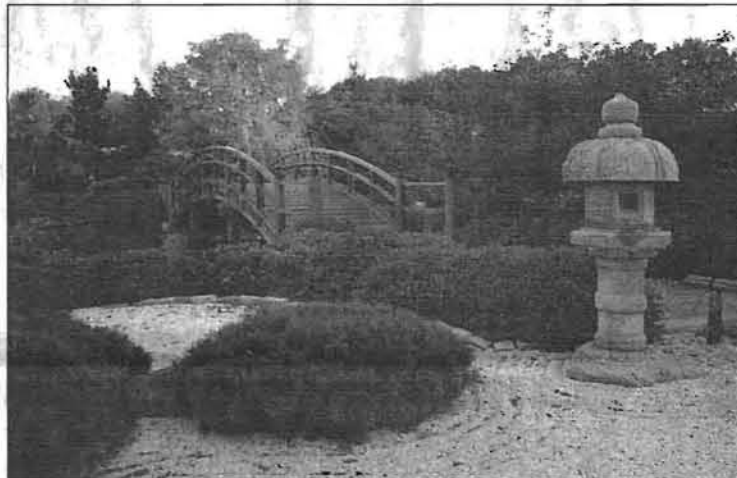
Guest Lecture Lean Software Development - One Step at a Time: Curt Hibbs, Steve Jewett and Mike Sullivan, The Boeing Company. This talk will describe the principles of Lean software development and contrast this with the principles behind the Agile Manifesto. ISPC meetings are free and open to all students, alumni, faculty and friends. 7 p.m. in 106 CCB. For more information call 7354.

Perussion Ensemble  
Performance

The UM-St. Louis Percussion Ensemble and the UMSL Afro-Cuban Ensemble will present a concert of percussion music from around the world. The concert will be held at the Lee Theater in the Touhill PAC at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 5522.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



The University Program Board will be taking the Mystery Bus to The Missouri Botanical Gardens this Saturday.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Golf Tournament

Campus Rec's 9-hole Golf Tournament is an 'individual medal' tourney with men's and women's division. Win a T-shirt for gross and net scores. No advance sign-up necessary, just grab a friend, call the course for a tee-time (423-6400) and then go play! After your round, drop your scorecard in the score box at the clubhouse. 9-hole green fee- \$11; cart (opt.)- \$10. St. Ann Golf Course, 4100 Ashby Road 63074.

Research Symposium

Undergraduate Students present their research, scholarship, and creative work in either a poster or oral format. The event starts at noon in the MSC Rotunda 2nd and 3rd floors.

ICS Tutorial

Get a tutorial on how to use our online "club manager" program and all of its functions. 1:30 p.m. in the SGA Chambers. For more information call 5291.

Physics & Astronomy  
Colloquium

"Computational model for rhythms in the rat olfactory system" Dr. Jorge Brea Center for Biodynamics Boston University. 3 p.m. in 328 Benton Hall. For more information call 5933.

Piano Recital

"Elegant Expressions" a piano recital will be held in the Lee Theater of the Touhill PAC at 7 p.m. The students of Alla Voskoboynikova, coordinator of piano studies at UM-St. Louis will be

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

Mystery Bus

Every month the University Program Board sponsors a trip to a mystery place in St. Louis. Buses will arrive at 11 a.m., depart at 11:30 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. This month will be the Missouri Botanical Garden. For more information call 5531.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Women in Politics

"Women in Politics Worldwide" Mona Lena Krook, assistant professor at Washington University, examines the state of women in world politics today, from gender gaps in voting behavior and social movement participation, to variations in women's access to elected office. 12:15 p.m. in the JC Penney Conference Center.

Alumni Lecture

"21st Annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture" Timothy T. Wenzel, research leader, Dow Chemical Co., Midland, MI presents the 21st in the Series of Distinguished Alumni Lectures, "New Polymers from Old Monomers." Coffee 3:15 p.m. Lecture begins at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. For more information call 5334.

ONGOING

Parent Advisory

"Parental Advisory" is an exhibit of student work. It will include works of art from studio art juniors at UM-St. Louis. The work will be on display in Gallery 210 through May 10. For

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Students must include their student ID  
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UMSL



# UMSL professor wins innovation award from Academy of Science

By CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Science Columnist

UM-St. Louis physicist Sonya Bahar now has an Academy award to add to her growing list of honors.

The Academy of Science - St. Louis bestowed its 2008 Innovation Award on Sonya Bahar, assistant professor of biophysics at UM-St. Louis, on Wednesday.

The award was presented at the organization's 14th Annual Outstanding St. Louis Scientists Awards banquet in the Chase Park's Starlight Room.

Bahar was recognized for her innovative cross-disciplinary work in neurobiology, approaching questions from a physics aspect. Bahar is also director of the Center for Neurodynamics at UM-St. Louis. She is co-editor of the *Journal of Biological Physics* and editor of the *Biological Physicist*, a newsletter of the American Physical Society.

The Academy of Science - St. Louis' Innovation Award "recognizes a scientist or engineer under age 40 who has demonstrated unusual potential for future accomplishments in a branch of science or engineering based on exceptional initial contributions."

In accepting her Innovation Award, Bahar expressed her gratitude to the Academy of Science but then quipped that she had to get the award now, as she is now 39.

"It was extremely exciting," Ba-

har said. "Particularly because I really love this city."

"To receive an award from a major scientific organization of St. Louis was a very, very exciting thing."

Bahar was honored for her work that spans both physics and biology. "My work is a combination of physics and neuroscience," she said. "We are looking at physics techniques that are based in chaos theory, that can be applied to looking at how the brain works, and particularly at studying pathology in the brain like seizures. That is one of the major things we are working on. We are doing a very interdisciplinary combination of doing actual nerve physiology-brain experiments, using physics analysis techniques. To interpret the data and predict different hypotheses of what might be going on in the brain."

"A lot of it involves looking at human data we have gotten through collaborations with other universities, like Cornell in New York City, Weill Medical School, and Wash U and St. Louis University."

Approaching neurobiology from a physics point of view is a fresh idea. "A lot of the opportunities to do innovative work are really coming from interdisciplinary work," she said.

"The Center for Neurodynamics is a really active Center but it is a smaller center (at the University)," Bahar said. "It was founded by Frank Moss, from physics, and Lon Wilkins, from biology, about 12 years ago. It was initially based in their collaboration looking at the physics of how the

paddlefish detected electrical fields with its really long nose.

"I originally worked in the center as Frank Moss' post doc back in 1999 to 2002. I was really happy to come back as a faculty member a few years after that."

The Center has moved into other work now and is even considering future collaboration with the University's Center for Nanoscience, or even at some point working with the University's World Ecology Center on evolution studies.

In her acceptance speech, Bahar expressed concern about "the two St. Louis's," referring to the divide in quality science education in local schools. She told of visiting a public high school where a student told her that he "did not believe in dinosaurs."

"It was astonishing to me and made me very sad, not knowing where to begin in terms of trying to bridge that gap," Bahar said, who has recently been doing some outreach to local high schools.

"If you think about it, it is obvious that in any big city, there is this kind of gap but the outreach has made me see very clearly that there are people where the idea of research, the whole idea of a career in science, is so far from what their daily experience is giving them," she said.

"It is really very sad to see such a gap and I think that it is something that really could be bridged," she said, noting that UM-St. Louis and other area universities are often physically very close to a number of



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Sonya Bahar, assistant professor in biophysics at UM-St. Louis, was awarded the innovation award at by the Academy of Science for her work in neurobiology. Bahar is the director of the Center for Neurodynamics at UM-St. Louis.

high schools.

"There is a lot of outreach that is going on for students at the wealthier high schools that already have more advantages," she said. "I think that kind of outreach is important also but there is a lot more that universities in the area, and the Academy of Science, could do to really try to bridge that gap," Bahar said. "There is a St. Louis thing, like the 'two Americas.'"

She also noted the importance of science literacy generally, as well as opening science career choices for high school students. Students need science literacy to grow up to be informed citizens who understand sci-

ence issues in their lives and in government policy.

"I think it is a gigantic problem," Bahar said on U. S. science literacy. "It is actually an issue with some people in Jefferson City, not just in the high schools."

The recent years have been busy for Bahar. She received a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) award in March 2006.

On Nov. 1, 2007, Bahar was one of a select group of young scientists at the White House to receive the 2006 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers award. The PECASE award is the highest honor

given to scientists and engineers at the beginning their independent careers by the U.S. government.

The award recognizes outstanding scientists and engineers who show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of their fields early in their careers.

Bahar was one of the 20 scientists who received National Science Foundation's CAREER awards who were so honored.

The Academy of Science of St. Louis is an organization that focuses on recognizing scientific accomplishment and promoting understanding of science in the St. Louis area.

# LitMag turns 'a gamble into a work of art'

JEREMY TRICE

Staff Writer

Nineteen students, who officially became published authors last week, celebrated at the LitMag launch party Friday at the Alumni House.

The 2008 Edition of LitMag, the magazine where students can send in their fiction, poetry, and nonfiction material as well as photographs, held a launch party Friday.

LitMag was published in the April 14 issue of *The Current*.

The LitMag release party opened up with refreshments and people having conversations about the magazine itself before readings itself took place.

Eleven students were a part of the Editing LitMag course, taught by Jaime Wood, who opened up the reading with a poem called "Poetry" by the late Pablo Neruda, a Chilean poet.

Nineteen people took part in making the LitMag possible. Wood thanked the writers and artists in the LitMag itself:

"To the writers and artists who contributed to LitMag this year, we owe our greatest debt of gratitude to you," Wood said. "The editors of the 2008 edition of LitMag were able to turn 'a gamble into a work of art.'"

In the literature magazine are interviews with two famous authors: Kathleen Finneran and Majorie Stelmach. Finneran is an instructor at Washington University and a guest instructor on the campus.

She was a recipient of the Whiting Writers' Award in 2001 and a



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Ellen Herget (CENTER) senior, anthropology, visits with her mother Kathy Herget (LEFT) and friend Anna Ross at LitMag's launch party Friday in the Alumni House. Ellen had a poem "Remembering Those Days" published in this year's edition of LitMag.

Guggenheim Fellowship in 2003. Finneran comes to the University to lead workshops on memoirs and personal essay.

The other author interviewed in LitMag is Majorie Stelmach, who is the director of the Washington University Howard Nemerov Writing Scholars program.

The three contest winners also took part in reading their winning entries.

Amy Perry, senior, psychology, read her winning fiction entry "And

That I Almost Wasn't," which was about a man in Japan whose mother had three miscarriages before his birth. Perry is also the winner of the Wednesday Club contest and is a previous entrant in Bellerive and LitMag.

Madeleine Wurm, freshman, English, was next to read her winning poem entry, "I Dreamed I Was Showing You The Midwest."

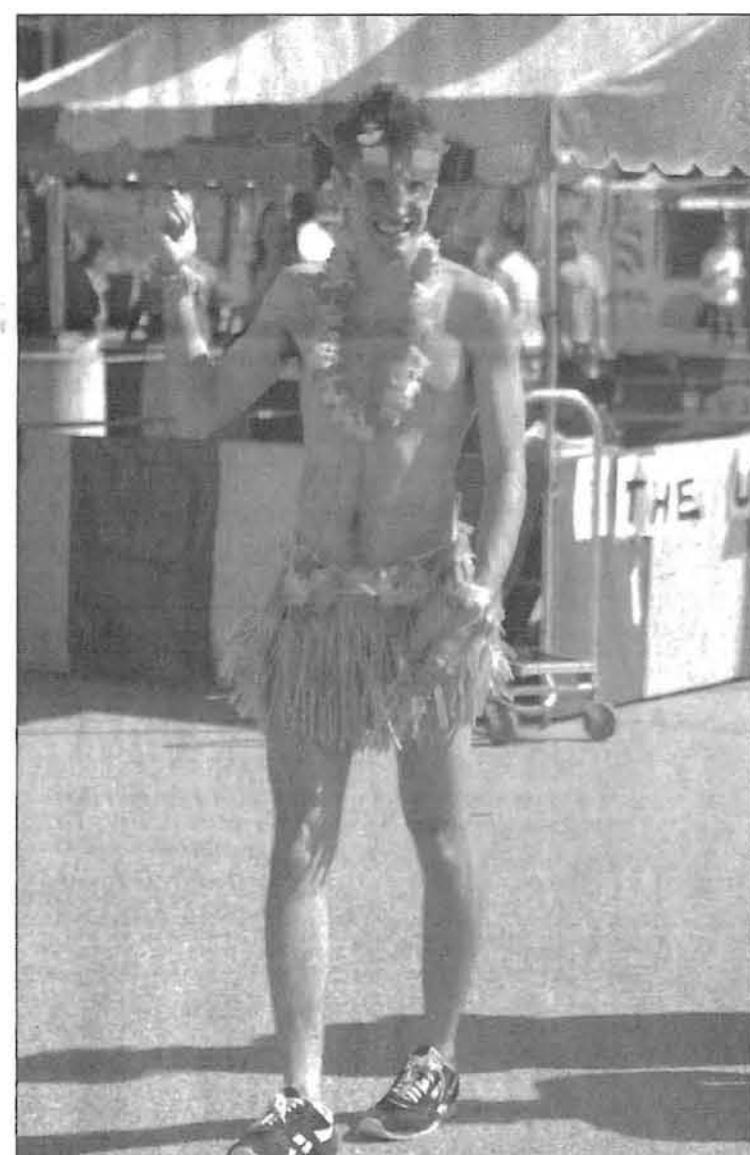
The reading concluded with John Pyron, who is currently attending the Graduate School of Educa-

tion. Pyron read his winning entry, "Growth," a piece of work about himself. Pyron is also a seven-year survivor of Hodgkin's lymphoma.

This will be Wood's last year of teaching the LitMag course.

"LitMag is a capstone course, that is offered only in the spring," Wood said. "It also counts as an internship."

Students interested in the LitMag course should see Mary Troy for more information.



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Robbie Haupt, sophomore, communication, shows his UMSL spirit during Mirthday Wednesday.

MIRTHDAY, from page 1

"I had no idea what the theme was supposed to stand for," said Joshua McCormack, freshman, political science, "but I had a good time."

Throughout the day, many entertainers, such as Roosevelt Marching Band, Gangsta Gritz, Ultraviolents and the Encore Dance Team were present on the lawn for students to enjoy.

After a full day of fun in the sun, students were invited to make the trek over to the Touhill Performing Arts Center for a concert featuring Tyga, Kidz in the Hall, I am Avalanche and Gym Class Heroes.

Students could receive up to two free tickets simply by presenting their student ID at the Office of Student Life or at the Touhill, and admission was \$15 for non-students.

UPB originally booked Lupe Fiasco, an up-and-coming hip-hop artists with such hits as "Superstar"

and "Daydreaming," "but Kayne West's Glow in the Dark tour interfered," Ryan said.

Ryan also said that his favorite improvement for this year's Mirthday celebration was the quality of entertainment.

"I was kind of surprised that they were able to book such a well known group," said McCormack said, but with a budget of "around \$100,000" for this event, much more is possible than most students think.

UPB will not be sparing any money for the 2009 Mirthday event either. "[Our goal is] to make it bigger and better each year," Ryan said.

And for those who had a great time at Mirthday this year, mark the calendars in advance for next year. "This year's Mirthday was a very successful event, and I hope it continues to get better and better every year," Ritter said.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Retired professor of economics Joseph McKenna dies

Retired UM-St. Louis professor Joseph P. McKenna died on April 11, 2008, in Sun City West, Ariz., because of complications of pneumonia. He was 85.

In 196, he joined UM-St. Louis as professor of economics until his retirement in 1985, ending his 35-year career in education.

He wrote three textbooks and many articles, served as consultant to government and other agencies, served on the Board of Trustees of the Missouri Council on Economic Education, and was active with the Joint Council on Economic Education.

A memorial service for McKenna will be held at a later date in Milwaukee, where his family had planned to move.

He was cremated and will be interred in Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee.

In his memory, a gift to a charity of your choice in his name would be his wish, especially those caring for the less fortunate.

SGA, from page 1

However, he hopes the new administration will "work on the shuttle by taking a look at the survey the recommendations that were made" by research assistant Esha Christie.

Goers, who was also elected to the Student Senate Organization during the elections, said he "liked the idea of having increased signage around campus," an idea that was part of the Fresh Outlook slate.

Goers also announced the outcome of the two referendums that were on the ballot with this year's election.

The Associated Students of the University of Missouri fee referendum which asked students to reestablish the 15 cent per credit hour per semester fee passed with 548 "yes"

SHUTTLE, from page 1

Shuttles would also have a technology called Syncromatics installed. It is a GPS tracking system in which units would be located online.

"It would take frustrations out of it, you can see how far in advance what time shuttles would arrive," said Teresa Wolfram, graduate research assistant.

The cost of installing this tech-

nology is affordable. With a total of four shuttles running on campus, it is a fairly small system. The installation of the technology would be a one-time fee of \$5,700 and yearly maintenance fees would total \$4,000 a year.

"We were surprised that the technology would be affordable," Christie said.

Student Senate elections and the winners were Candace Anderson, Timothy Davis, Bryan Goers, Alex Howard, Kristen Meyer, Jason Rottler, Ivana Ristovska, Lauren Snowden, Thomas Starr, George Scott Tapp, Timothy Volkert, Scott Willer, and Bradley Williams.

Goers said he ran for Senate because he "wanted to stay involved next year with the campus government process."

"The Student Senate seemed as a good way to continue what I was doing as SGA president in another aspect of the governing process," said Goers.

Goers said he plans to run for chair of the Student Senate Organization for next year.

According to the Center for Transportation Studies the considerations to factors that affect demand could be helped by passenger counters. LED signs at bus stops could help students locate stops that are accessible.

Issues that arise from stability and efficiency could also be resolved by some operational changes.

"We put out on Mondays"

The Current



OUR OPINION

# Does SGA make the grade?

As the end of the school year is upon us, grades are crucial now more than ever.

With the next year's Student Government Association executives chosen, what better time to grade the ones who are now ending their term?

Last year around this time, the current SGA administration was put to the test at the annual SGA debate and campaigned for what they wanted to see done for the students for the coming year.

A year has come and gone. Did the three top SGA executives live up to their words?

First up, SGA President Bryan Goers.

In the SGA debate held last year, Goers stated he wanted to increase student involvement in SGA, lower the costs of parking passes for student who parked the Millennium Student Center garages, better communicate with the student body, better organize SGA meetings and survey the students at the University about issues that arose. Well, three out of the five came true.

Goers was able to increase not only student attendance, but also faculty attendance, at SGA meetings. He went to the different colleges in UM-St. Louis and actually got student representatives-at-large from each of the colleges and brought in faculty, staff and administrators to allow students to directly ask questions to them.

Improving communication with students was accomplished with a master student calendar, and a student cabinet made up of leaders from the 15 most active groups on campus.

A calendar was posted outside of Student Life and there is also a calendar available on the SGA Web site.

The last of his accomplished tasks was organizing SGA meetings with more efficiency. With simplifying Robert's Rules of Order, meeting

times were nearly cut in half.

As for transportation, Goers seemed to fight more for the Metro pass program than the parking pass.

Parking passes were not even discussed in the full assembly this school year.

Surveying students happened only one time, and the survey about South Campus dining was only sent to a select number of students.

President  
Bryan Goers - A-

Vice President  
Cadence Rippeto - B-

Comptroller  
Katie Moore - B

As for SGA vice president Cadence Rippeto, whose main job was to be in charge of the different committees, Rippeto did a decent job of overseeing the committee.

As she promised in the debate, she did send out numerous e-mails about committee meetings dates and times to bring awareness to meetings, but attendance at those meetings was still low, a fault attributed to lack of advertising the meetings in different ways besides e-mails and the Web site.

However, she was able to get help through co-chairs, such as Carlo Manaois, to help raise awareness and excitement about the green committee, but not much action was taken besides adding recycling containers for bottles and cans around campus.

The student fee review commit-

tee, which helped come up with the Metro pass referendum that passed last week in the SGA elections, recommended fee increases with the student fee cap that limited fee increases and was probably the most successful committee, except for homecoming.

Rippeto also headed Homecoming last fall, which increased its attendance by more than 100 people from the year before, and is a plus to her leadership abilities.

Finally, SGA comptroller Katie Moore, who has one of the toughest jobs on campus: to dish out more than \$700,000 worth of student fees to student organizations.

However, during the debate, neither she nor her opponent knew how much was doled out, guessing the amount was close to \$200,000.

Moore also thought that University Program Board, SGA and other active student groups should receive the most funding.

We will find out next week whether her preconceived bias toward those groups were actually allocated that way when the allocations are made public in the April 28 issue of *The Current*.

Moore also wanted to see more accountability from student organizations from their budgets and whether they spent their money on what they said they were going to spend. While the discussion of other groups' funding was not disclosed, at every SGA meeting.

Moore was held accountable and was willing to discuss the SGA budget spending at the SGA meetings. Another accomplishment Moore was able to realize was getting a diverse group for the Student Allocations Budget Committee, something she hoped for at the debate last year.

So let this be a lesson for those stepping in for the next term: be accountable for the things you say now because the students are counting on you.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

## Bioethics can be used to close the racial divide

There is an unacceptable ambiguity used in ethical parlance: the mistaken use of "bioethics" and "medical ethics" interchangeably.

I am not merely being picky here; rather I notice that the continued willingness to make this mistake robs us of a useful instrument for solving some very severe matters related to our conduct among one another in an everyday sense.

If one wants to speak of the norms and conduct that are present, or ought to be, in the one on one doctor-patient relationship in the research or clinical settings, then one is asking a question in the realm of medical ethics.

However, if one begins to ask questions about how we ought to justify our organization and use of a hierarchy in any sense of all living things, both rational, such as humans and not, then one is asking a bioethical question.

Recognizing this distinction, and further accepting it, should make evident that we are able to put the mirror on ourselves, so to speak. How we could possibly ever justify and accept racism in spite of the historical difficulties that have arisen because of it?

There exists obvious physical differences among people which gives us enough to begin grouping like people together.

Once we allow that such division exists, we admit a cultural distinction and then begin to consciously, and sometimes even subconsciously, cast value judgments. We are simply in error.

If the differences appear to be the problem, and yet are a biological fact, how is one to solve such an error in a positive way?

I think we may be looking at a good case for positive eugenics. We should begin actively encouraging interracial relationships that could result in multiracial offspring such that the divisions would no longer be

apparent and racism would be unintelligible.

However ideal as this may seem, even if it does sound like the plot a strange utopian novel or a bad science fiction flick, we should be ask a deeper and far more pragmatic question: if the recognition of differences in skin color cause us to make a categorical distinction simply for the sake making

discourse easier, why is it that value judgments tend to follow?

Since we cannot seem to get even the most basic racial divisions out of our science, I submit we need to make greater efforts to embrace and promote those differences and see them as a benefit.

For many years the classroom wisdom that we leaned on to discourage racism was: we are all the same on the inside, if not on the outside. Science is beginning to show that even that statement is a polite fiction when we consider that medicine done on the genomic level suggests that certain races are prone to certain maladies more so than others. For instance: the occurrence of sickle cell anemia in blacks, or the occurrence of Tay-Sachs disease in Jews of Ashkenazic descent.

So there you have it folks, we are different and since racial integration on the biological level does not seem practical, we need to move past our negative value judgments of those obvious differences among us and embrace them.

As I frequently point out to my fiancé who is the polar opposite of me in so many ways, it is her presence and contribution of a separate life experience that I lean on everyday for perspective.

If we begin teaching our children that they are not only different from one another, but it is just those differences that make them of value to one another, we can make a move toward a more cooperative society where racial diversity and social integration is more firmly embraced.



By STUART REEVES  
Columnist

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"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

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As a forum for public expression on campus, *The Current* welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact *The Current's* editor-in-chief.

Letters and commentaries will also be printed online at [www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com)

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STAFF VIEWPOINT

## Lemon wedges changed my life

I am not the most health conscience person in the world and I do not believe everything I hear. With that said, I am usually not the person who changes his lifestyle when he hears a special health report on the news. Or at least not usually.

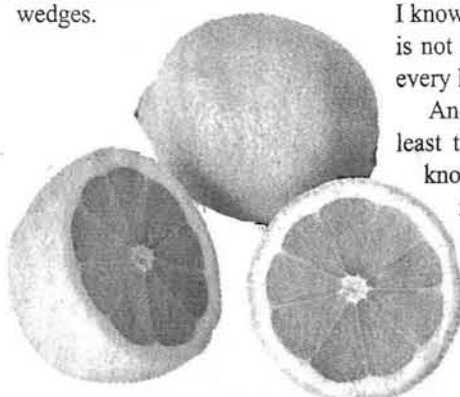
I saw a KMOV special report about lemon wedges, which in a small way changed my life. Yes, something as small as lemon wedges changed my daily routine.

The report focused on lemon wedges given to customers and took samples from eight restaurants around the metro area.

The report aired almost two months ago and I did not realize until now that it had really struck a chord with me.

I will forego all of the details given in the report and get directly to the point. All of the samples taken from the restaurants tested positive for human fecal matter.

That means that after using the restroom, no one at any of the restaurants washed their hands before cutting lemon wedges.



Every single lemon tested positive and that was enough for me to think about switching to Mountain Dew instead of iced tea the next time I am out at a restaurant.

In fact, I have noticed that since seeing the report back in February, I do not think I have had one single lemon.

I do not even buy them anymore. I know that every lemon in the world is not tainted, but I surely think that every lemon in this area is tainted.

And it is just not lemons, or at least that is the way I look at it. I know there are signs to instruct restaurant employees to wash their hands, but what happens when just one person does not do it? Fecal matter, that is what happens.

I know that this is a gross

thought, but what if no one in a restaurant washed their hands during an entire shift. It may seem like it will not happen, but think about how many times you see people wash their hands while you are standing in line at a fast-food restaurant. Or maybe you should not, that is if you still want to eat there.

How many people touch the fresh produce at grocery stores before it is actually purchased by a customer?

Even if you wash the food before preparing it, there are too many things that could have happened to it. Someone could have sneezed on the lettuce or coughed on the carrots and no one would ever know.

I guess that the only option would be to eat everything out of cans. Oh wait, you might run into that fecal matter problem there too.

I guess that there is no way around it. How does that old saying go? "Fecal matter" happens.

It all started with a report on lemon wedges and it led to a total mistrust of most foods, or at least for the people who deliver and prepare said food.

I could just be paranoid, or I could be on to something. Either way, I know that lemon wedges are off limits.

I cannot drink a cold lemon flavored beverage again without thinking that the guy who cut these lemons took a number two without washing his hands before cutting my lemons. That is just an overall bad thought to have. So people, be safe, and wash your hands.



By LAGUAN FUSE  
Sports Editor

STAFF VIEWPOINT

## Olympics not for politics

About two weeks ago, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi went on national television and said that the United States should consider boycotting the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Olympics to protest China's human rights violations, specifically in Tibet.

You know, I love it when politicians who do not have a clue about sports try to help make important decisions regarding those sports. It is so cute of them.

It reminds me of a few months back, when a member of the House Oversight Committee spent five mortal minutes questioning Roger Clemens about the color of the Vitamin B and lidocaine injections he takes.

Man, it sure is a good thing he asked, because maybe that is why Clemens and his former trainer have conflicting stories over whether he took steroids or not: they got their colors confused!

Hey now that we have that

cleared up, we can find the missing weapons of mass destruction.

Now Pelosi is at it, and the consequences could be of a much greater magnitude.

The United States could actually boycott the opening ceremonies, and

although I doubt it will actually happen, even talking about it just shows Pelosi's ignorance toward the issues at hand.

The Olympics should be the furthest thing from a political statement. The very intent of the Games was for nations to put aside their differences and let the athletes compete on the same field of competition.

I know that sounds naïve in a world that overflows with conflicts that transcend the importance of any sporting event, but there is no reason that this ideal cannot stand today.



By SCOTT LAVELOCK  
Staff Writer

## UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

### Should UM-St. Louis become a Division-I school or stay Division-II?

What do you think? Send your own response to [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu) or talk about it in our online forums at [www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com)



Antoinette Dickens  
Senior  
Media Studies

"Division-II. We already have good athletic teams and we can easily build upon that."



Lauren Snowden  
Junior  
Finance and Marketing

"Division-I. It would build a bigger fan base for UMSL athletics and increase ticket sales."



Brian Skubic  
Junior  
Public Policy

"Division-II. We need great teams to help bring in fans instead of a D-I team that might not be good. Division-I later on, definitely."



Andy Fankhouser  
Senior  
International Business

"Division-I because of the opportunity to play at a higher level, the potential to bring in new sponsors and get our athletes national recognition."



Michele Landeau  
Graduate Student  
Public Policy

"I think Ben Lambert should be Division-I and everyone else should be Division-III."



SCIENCE COLUMN

STL schools widening gap in science education

Could we be moving toward “two St. Louis’s” in science literacy?

At the recent Academy of Science - St. Louis awards banquet, the 2007 Innovation Award honoree, UM-St. Louis physicist Sonya Bahar noted her concerns about a growing gap in science education between “the two St. Louis’s,” extending John Edwards’ phrase the “two Americas.”

Bahar’s concern was sparked by a student at a public school, who told her, not that he did not believe in evolution, but that he did not believe in dinosaurs.

Bahar is right to be concerned. We should all be concerned about science literacy in this country.

The rest of the developed world is surprised at the low levels of scientific literacy in the U.S. Places like Europe, Canada, Australia, Japan, all have far higher science literacy than this country. It was not always so, because technology was once our leading edge.

We hear constantly from the Bush Administration, and elected officials of both political parties, about concerns over American students’ achievements and test scores in math and science. Still, we are confronted everyday with political attempts to insert religion into science teaching or water down scientific findings that are inconvenient.

You cannot have it both ways. The fall of the Soviet Union, where science had to conform to ideology, should be one lesson from history on the dangers of letting ideology drive science.

Yet, the anti-science drumbeat continues on the right, with the latest example being right-wing comedian Ben Stein’s movie “Expelled,” an attempt to promote creationism as a new idea that is unfairly being

excluded from the classroom by bureaucratic scientists.

Many people in other developed countries, like Great Britain, France, Germany, Sweden, Canada, and Australia, are puzzled, even embarrassed by Americans’ lack of science knowledge and the on-going Creationism and Intelligent Design movement in this country.

Creationism and Intelligent Design proponents present science and religion as being at odds and seeks to re-fight a scientific debate that concluded nearly two hundred years ago.

Since then, the scientific evidence for evolution has become overwhelming. Also, there are, of course, many scientists of faith. These scientists see no conflict between faith and science, which operate in very different spheres.

There is no scientific debate over evolution, only a social debate. In fact, there are more problems with the theory of gravity than the theory of evolution, although no one so far is disputing gravity’s existence.

The reason why there is no scientific debate is because of the huge body of observable evidence in favor of evolution, not because of some suppression of data.

Nonetheless, certain groups continue to argue the point, not because of the scientific evidence but because of their cherry-picking of facts, based on their beliefs.

Certainly, people are entitled to their beliefs but as someone once

said, “you are entitled to your own opinion, not your own facts.”

In fact, many religious people, including Catholics, find their presenting of the Bible as a source of scientific facts to be offensive, and assertions that science and faith are at war to be absurd.

The formation of science and social viewpoints operate in very different ways. In forming one’s political, ideological or religious views, one is free to select the facts and bits of information one considers most important and disregard the rest.

One person may find a particular argument compelling while another person may feel that a different set of facts speaks more to him or her.

This means that a multitude of views can be present and even that prevailing viewpoints can shift over time.

Science is different. Unlike religion, philosophy and political ideology, scientific conclusions are based only on observations, data and reproducible experiments: hard irrefutable facts.

All facts must be considered and weighed. No valid reproducible information can be discarded at will.

This means it may take awhile to overturn an old theory and replace it with a new interpretation of the facts. But this inherent conservatism is balanced by the requirement to consider all data.

Science literacy is important for



By CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Science Columnist

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Bustling highways and rolling pastures

Face it. Life can be rather monotonous: Get up every morning, shower, brush your teeth, get dressed, go to work or school or both, eat when hungry, drive home, go to bed and do it again.

Perhaps the part of that spinning cycle that seems to be the biggest waste of time is the drive to and from work or school and home.

Sitting in “stop-and-go” traffic can truly test an individual’s patience, especially when that individual is hungry, is yearning to go the bathroom, or simply just wants to be at home to relax from a long day.

While I was sitting in traffic one day on my way home from work, I put aside the radio playing in the background, the frigid temperatures outside, and the fellow road-raging maniacs trying to reach home before anyone else, and I thought about what this highway use to be.

More, specifically, what was taking place in the very spot my car is sitting in 150 years ago?

I figured that 150 years ago, if anything at all was occurring where I was at, chances were that it was probably just farmland.

Then I reflected about how our society has changed in the past 150 years, and asked myself if I would rather be living today or back then?

Of course, I immediately thought about all the negative aspects of living in today’s world.

Today, most people in our society are working in offices staring at a computer all day, and are restricted from the wonders of the great outdoors.

Additionally, as pollution is becoming more prevalent, the great outdoors is slowly transforming into the grimy outdoors.

People seem busier than ever, as cars, cell phones, and the Internet allow us to be in many places in the least amount of time possible. How can anyone know the true smell of fresh air, let alone have the time to take it in?



By BEN GILLHAM  
Staff Writer

The positive aspect of today’s modern society is that the numerous modes of transportation and communication allow more interaction between humans. This interaction creates a more diverse atmosphere and helps people with similar interests meet even though they may be a country apart.

Living on a farm is not easy work. The labor requires a tremendous amount of physical effort. This work could easily result in a major injury, whether it resulted from using the equipment or encountering a venomous snake.

The hospital 150 years ago was not a quick 10 minute ride down the road.

An individual either had to know the medical treatment or have a robust immune system to fight off infection and injury until they could reach a doctor.

all American citizens, even if they do not pursue science careers, because it is essential to understand the challenges that face the nation and the world.

Ignorance, or leaving the decisions to experts whose work we do not understand is risky. All Americans can gain a basic understanding of science – after all, they do in other countries.

To return to comedian Ben Stein’s anti-science movie “Expelled,” Stein talks about “big science,” whatever that is, rehearsing a term that liberals used in the 1970s to distinguish between large, powerful businesses, who often wielded great influence over elected officials, and smaller mom-and-pop businesses, who still are the backbone of the economy and create most of the jobs.

The political right adopted the term as “big government” in the 1980s to describe large federal programs it opposed. What Stein means by “big science” is anyone’s guess – science is science.

There is no big central controller, just the consensus of researchers and the body of evidence. If there were sufficient verifiable evidence for creationism, it would be included. But there is not.

The ad for Stein’s “Expelled” also has a quote about giving “truth serum” to filmmaker Michael Moore. It is unclear what Michael Moore has to do with creationism or even science but if Stein means Moore’s views on health care in America, as shown in his movie “Sicko,” it is certain Moore would say those same things under the influence of Stein’s “truth serum.”

After all, “you are entitled to your own opinion but not your own facts.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Financially Fed Up

I recently read there is some debate as to whether or not all students should have to pay as much as [\$2] per credit hour to subsidize the Metro pass program.

I understand that the program used to be free, but it is not any longer. If UM-St. Louis wants to be kind enough to alleviate some of the cost, then by all means do so.

However, I am responsible for paying to park my car on campus and I do not recall seeing that any part of that is subsidized with my student fees. As far as extracurricular activities are concerned, I completely support paying toward the student fees that keep these programs alive.

However, student fees should not include how people choose to actually get to campus. I pay nearly \$200 each semester for the “privilege” of parking on campus without any help from my fellow students, therefore the people who choose to take the MetroLink/Metro bus to campus should also be responsible for paying their own way.

What’s next, subsidizing the cost of lunches, books and back-to-school clothing?

Transportation is as much the responsibility of the UM-St. Louis community as are the coats we wear when walking between classes. Enough is enough . . .

Stacy Beckenholdt  
Senior  
Anthropology

Student Representative to the Board of Curators

In his letter to the editor published on Tuesday, April 15th, [published in the Columbia Tribune] Bo Fraiser, member of the University of Missouri Board of Curators made the argument against a voting Student Representative to the Board of Curators.

Although I respect and admire Bo for both the kindness and professionalism he extended to me during our joint service on the

board, I strongly disagree with him on this issue. Having been a previous Student Representative to the Board of Curators I feel qualified to share my opinion on the subject.

One of the most prevailing arguments against a voting student member is that because the learning curve is so steep it is virtually impossible for any individual, let alone a student, to make an informed decision about the policies and procedures of the organization for an excruciatingly long length of time.

I disagree. The candidates who become student representatives are not chosen at random from among the undergraduate population but carefully selected on basis of their merit and understanding of the university and its students. Before I was appointed to the board I understood the difference between rate and cost dollars, the difference between an endowed and an annual fund, and a had been accustomed to the university jargon that saturates board meetings.

I do not ignore the differences between the 9 traditional members of the board and the student member. Every member of the board has their strengths and weaknesses. All we are asking is that our strengths be legitimately recognized.

Keep an open mind and to press beyond your gut reaction. Take the time to actually get to know the student representative or some of his previous counterparts.

The arguments against a voting student member are at best red herrings and at worst inaccurate assumptions based on fear.

Or, maybe Parker Denny was right and it is just one big political game and they don’t want us playing.

Maria Kerford  
Graduate Student  
Public Policy Administration &  
Former Student Representative to the UM Board of Curators

Something on your mind?  
Write a letter to the editor and send it to [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu).

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See page 12 for a full list of job openings.

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DAY OF SILENCE  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

PRIZM



TOP TEN

The Current

Most popular stories from The Current's Web site from the April 14 issue

10. Relay for Life: Weather does not put a damper on spirits

9. Dewey's is taking pizza to the next level

8. SGA candidates debate key campus issues

7. Ailey dancers fill Fox with American flavor

6. Campus Crimeline

5. At last! An opera to love with Carl Rosa's 'Mikado'

4. Letters to the Editor - The Stagnant

3. WEB EXCLUSIVE: From the streets to national TV: Kimbo Slice fights on CBS

2. Can UM-St. Louis athletics achieve Division-I status? Part 3

1. Roller Hockey: Lindenwood topples Tritons in national



# First SGA president began 46-year tradition

By PAUL HACKBARTH  
Editor-in-Chief

He may not be George Washington, but he was the first president . . . of Student Government Association.

Bill Ebbinghaus, now a retired certified public accountant living in Gilbert, Ariz., outside Mesa, talked about his days as SGA president in a phone interview Saturday morning, the same day GraceMarie Ritter, sophomore, liberal studies, was formally introduced as the 46th student government president in the history of UM-St. Louis.

Ritter will join a long list of student government leaders dating all the way back to 1963, when Ebbinghaus, class of 1967, was inaugurated as the campus's first Student Government Association president.

As SGA president, Ebbinghaus led a group of senators. Today, Student Senate Organization is a separate

entity of student government.

"One of the main duties of the president was to convene a meeting of the senators and discuss any issue they might have and to put on social events and dances that went on," Ebbinghaus said.

Today, the president does much the same thing by holding SGA meetings and helping out with the responsibilities of the Homecoming Dance, although the vice president has historically been in charge of homecoming activities.

While in office, Ebbinghaus said he does not remember many issues that really stood out, except lack of space.

"The University was at its starting point. The only building on campus at the time was the old country club building, and all of the classes [were held in that building] and there was a main ballroom which was used to be the main lecture hall," he said.

"There were some facility issues

with a lack of places to do things and they aired their issues on what was needed," he said, adding that only about 500 students attended the University in its first year.

While today student groups still lobby for space in the office of Student Life, this year's student government leaders dealt with issues including MetroLink passes, affirmative action, the Columbia and Rolla campuses' name changes and giving a vote to the student curator.

However, some issues never go away, like food service and parking.

As SGA president, Ebbinghaus said, "We did not have real gusty people and issues. [We dealt with issues] more like a better place to eat lunch or cars being stuck in the parking lot filled with chat."

While those issues may pale in comparison today, they were nevertheless important issues to students.

And although today *The Current* and the SGA elections committee

moderates a formal debate among candidates, Ebbinghaus said he remembered campaigning and running against one opponent, "and we both gave speeches in that room and I remember it was a close election, but I managed to win by a few votes."

Ebbinghaus won the position of president, and Jerry Stimson was named the first vice president. The position of comptroller was not created until 1993, when Bill Ross was the first to be named to that position.

In addition to being named the first SGA president, Ebbinghaus was also the vice president of the first ever alumni association.

As a business administration major, Ebbinghaus became an accountant and worked at McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis for 18 years.

He later moved to Arizona and worked for 17 years as a controller of financial operations building apache helicopters in Mesa.

## Breaking the sound barrier with Conversation Partners

By JESSICA KEIL  
Co-Features Editor

"My wife and I first met when I was in college when we were conversation partners at SLU," said Aileen Stout, director of ELS Language Centers on campus and organizer of the conversation partner program at UM-St. Louis. "And today, we are happily married with three children."

It could very well be considered poetic that the program dedicated to helping international students become more acquainted with the English language was begun by Stout last Valentine's Day at UM-St. Louis.

A "conversation partner" is exactly what its name suggests. The general idea is that an international student and an American student from UM-St. Louis are paired together and have conversations about once a week.

The meetings take up about one or two hours a week and are held anywhere from the ELS building located behind the music building on South Campus to the cafeteria on North Campus.

According to Stout, "Our students really want American conversation partners. A lot of them have low English speaking ability when they come to UMSL and are too shy to go up to a stranger because of that. Sometimes, they need a little nudge, and I am that nudge."

By starting the conversation partner program at UM-St. Louis, Stout hoped to provide the "nudge" that his international students needed in order to start a conversation with other American students who could help them with their English.

So far, Stout has paired 11 international students with American counterparts through the conversation partners program. The number of ELS students waiting to be paired, however, far outweighs those who already have.

"We still have around 60 students who would like a conversation partner," Stout said. "There is almost no one who doesn't want one."

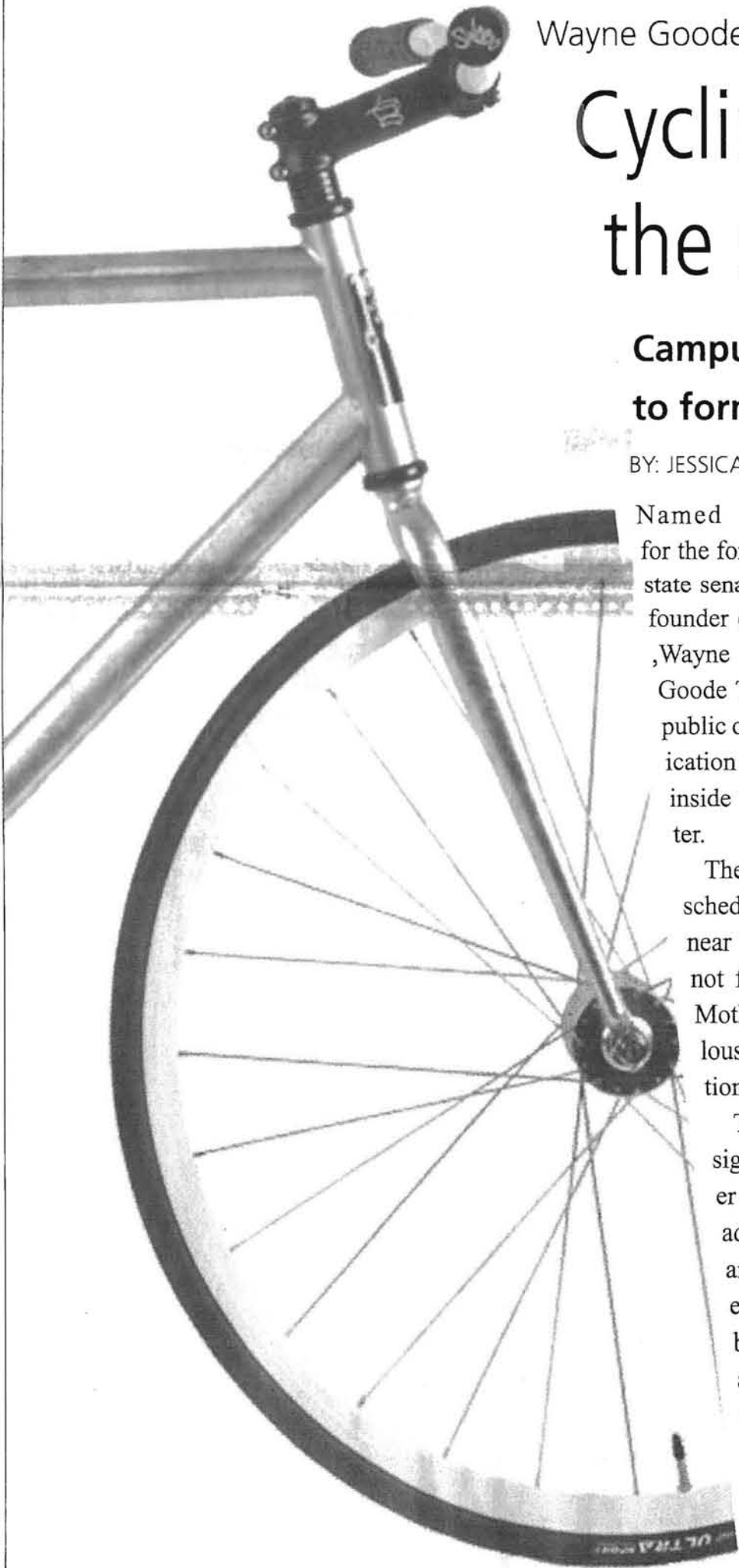
One example is Mohammad Abuhaimd, an ELS student from Saudi Arabia.

"It was hard in the beginning to meet students in America," Abuhaimd said. "I have American friends now, but I would still love to have a conversation partner. It would help me with everything."

For Merve Genc, an ELS student from Turkey and one of the few ELS students with a conversation partner, her experience in the program has helped her to work on campus.

"I have a conversation partner, and she is a student and she works here [at UMSL]," Genc said. "She has helped me to work at UMSL too in the cafeteria and the library...she is very good."

See CONVERSATION, page 14



Wayne Goode Trail Dedication

## Cycling spins into the spotlight

### Campus bike trail dedicated to former co-founder of UMSL

By: JESSICA KEIL • FEATURES EDITOR

Named for the former state senator and co-founder of UM-St. Louis, Wayne Goode, the Wayne Goode Trail was opened to the public on Friday at an official dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony inside the Millennium Student Center.

The ribbon cutting was originally scheduled to be located on the bike trail near the MSC lakes and appropriately not far from the Wayne Goode statue. Mother Nature, however, being the callous mistress she is, caused the reception to be moved indoors.

The many invitees inside showed no sign of aggravation at the poor weather and helped themselves to lemonade and hot dogs while chatting amiably and perusing the Greenway District literature and biking posters arranged on a small table to the left of the enormous ribbon.

See BIKE TRAIL, page 7

## Mirthday allows student concerts to take center stage

By LAQUAN FUSE  
Sports Editor

The Sumer-Disiples performed a hip-hop concert outside of the Millennium Student Center Wednesday in front of a cheering Birthday crowd.

The group is formed of UM-St. Louis students Matthew Amend, Richard Williams and Ramon Roberto. The performance also featured freestyles from fans in the crowd and an appearance by special guest Wut Metaphysical.

Amend and Williams sat down

and discussed the message which they are trying send with their music and where they see the hip-hop genre as a whole. They said their music is not similar to what would be heard on the radio, but instead is meant to provoke thought on various subjects.

According to Amend, the rap group formed when he, Williams and Roberto sat at in the Millennium Student Center and discussed various topics ranging from music to ancient civilizations.

"We would sit in front of the Aroma Café and discuss rap, philosophy, religion, history and politics for about two hours a day. We would

debate and just go back and forth," Amend said. "All three of us had an interest in rap, just different genres. Then all of a sudden they started to freestyle. I always knew that Richard could freestyle. He has been doing it for a while, but I did not know that Ramon could freestyle. Then I started beat boxing, and for a straight hour Ramon and Richard went non-stop back and forth freestyling. That's when we said let's start a group."

These conversations eventually led to not only the creation of the group but also gave life to the name, Sumer-Disiples. Williams follows his devotion to Suma by using the

name, Prince Ea.

"Briefly, Prince Ea was the Sumerian creator God," Richard said.

"The first conversation we had at the silver chairs, all three of us together, we were talking about Suma and we were discussing ancient astronaut theory," Amend said. "Since that was our first conversation and since we all have an interest in Suma and have learned from their ways, we called ourselves, Sumer-Disiples."

Amend went on to discuss how he views the message of the Sumer-Disiples. "We really are the art of hip-hop in the essence that we do not lie in our raps," Amend said. "We

do not think that being a gangster is cool. Being smart and free thinking is cool. Essentially that is what we are trying to portray. We are trying to spit knowledge and get people to say, 'Wow, I never heard that in my life.' In our lyrics, we do not lie or exaggerate, at all."

The Sumer-Disiples focus on the message of their music instead of what is most popular in today's hip-hop and rap culture.

They try to get people to think for themselves instead of following the crowd.

See SUMER-DISCIPLES, page 14





Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Chancellor Thomas George and former Missouri State Sen. Wayne Goode officially opened the Wayne Good Memorial Bike Trail Friday. The trail, which is part of the Great Rivers Greenway District, runs through both North and South Campus and is named after Goode because of his part in founding UM-St. Louis.

#### BIKE TRAIL, from page 6

Nancy Thompson, the Regional Great Rivers Greenway District project manager, was among the affable group and her good mood could not be dampened because of a little rain.

"The ribbon cutting over the trail was moved inside, which is OK because nothing is cancelled, just moved," she said.

The Great Rivers Greenway District collaborated with UM-St. Louis in order to further its goal of establishing "The River Ring."

According to the organization's brochure, The River Ring is "an interconnected system of greenways, parks and trails that will encircle the St. Louis region, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors."

Thompson described it as "parks, greenways and trails that will connect UMSL to places like North Park and the headquarters of Vatterott College, Forest Park, and Ferguson."

In fact, once completed, The River Ring will comprise 600 miles and connect to over 45 greenways,

which are linear open space connectors to parks and the like and often established along streams and rivers.

"The first part is finished and it will be four or five years until it's all the way complete. I'm shooting for four, of course," Thompson said, with a laugh.

After the group that had gathered in the MSC for the dedication ceremony had all been given the chance to grab hot dogs and socialize with project leaders such as Thompson, they were asked to give their attention to a number of speakers.

Chancellor Tom George spoke first about Goode and the reason the University had decided to dedicate the bike trail in his name.

"Wayne Goode was a senator for many years and is associated with forming this campus," George said. "Without his help, we wouldn't have gotten this started. Wayne is also actually an avid cyclist ... he's the real deal."

Goode, himself, was at the ceremony and expressed his thanks to

the University for naming the trail after him.

"I am really happy this campus is involved with this," Goode said. "I am very grateful to the University and to Greenways for putting this trail through here and for putting my name on it."

Other speakers included the executive director of The Great Rivers Greenway District David Fisher, and Elizabeth Van Uum, assistant to the provost for public affairs and economic development at UM-St. Louis.

After all of the speakers had finished, the bike trail opening was nearing its close, but no dedication ceremony would be complete without the traditional use of an oversized pair of scissors to cut in half an equally large ribbon.

The ceremony then did appropriately conclude with George, Fisher and Goode himself coming together underneath an archway of balloons to cut the ribbon and therefore signify that the Wayne Goode bike trail was officially open to the public.

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# E & A

## MOVIE OPENINGS

### HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY

John Cho and Kal Penn reprise their Harold and Kumar roles in a comedy where the guys head for Amsterdam but get mistaken for terrorists. Opens at several theaters.

### BABY MAMA

Saturday Night Live alums Tina Fey and Amy Poehler star in a comedy about a career woman (Fey) hiring a ditzzy surrogate (Poehler) to have her baby. Opens at several theaters.

### MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS

Singer Norah Jones makes her film debut co-starring with Jude Law in this indie-style story of a waitress who wanders across the country after a disappointment in love. Tentatively set to open at Tivoli but may change.

### DECEPTION

Hugh Jackson and Ewan MacGregor star in a racy, murder mystery – thriller, involving a secret sex club. Opens at several theaters.

### THE VISITOR

Indie drama about a widowed college professor drifting through life who has an unexpected and affecting encounter with an immigrant couple. Opens exclusively at Plaza Frontenac.

## TOP TUNES DOWNLOADS

1. 4 Minutes (feat. Justin Timberlake) - Madonna
2. Bleeding Love - Leona Lewis
3. Lollipop - Lil Wayne
4. No Air - Jordin Sparks & Chris Brown
5. Say - John Mayer
6. Love in this Club - Usher
7. Sexy Can I (feat. Yung Berg) - Ray J



8. Pocketful of Sunshine - Natasha Bedingfield
9. Bye Bye - Mariah Carey
10. See You Again - Miley Cyrus

## CONCERT REVIEW

# Put your peace sign up for Heroes

By PAUL HACKBARTH & ANGIE SPENCER

Editor in Chief & Proofreader

After a fun-filled day of mirth, 'tis no better a way to end the day than with a free concert featuring Tyga, Kidz in the Hall, I Am the Avalanche, and of course, the main act, Gym Class Heroes.

The Anheuser-Busch auditorium was mostly packed with fans who were there just to hear the one and only single they knew from the band: "Cupid's Chokehold", a remake from Prince.

The performance of "Chokehold" was by far the best of the night with leader singer Travis McCoy's strong vocals, who has a "Ph.D. in kickass-onometry."

McCoy's performance of "Papercuts" from the group's album "The Papercut Chronicles" was lacking in enthusiasm.

The night of music had its ups and downs, but what was more entertaining were the interjections between the sets including his comedic take on his texting problems and the X-Files list on his phone, where he explained he puts an X by the name of every girl he meets ("it happens sometimes") and when he is drunk, he sends a text message to every girl with an X by her name.

However, later the mood became more serious as he announced Wednesday marked the one and a half month anniversary celebration of his sobriety.

However, the crowd got jumping again with his political rant of "Put your peace sign up, put your index down" intermission.

However, what Gym Class Heroes needs to remember is that while they are good entertainers and comedians, they are first and foremost a musical group.

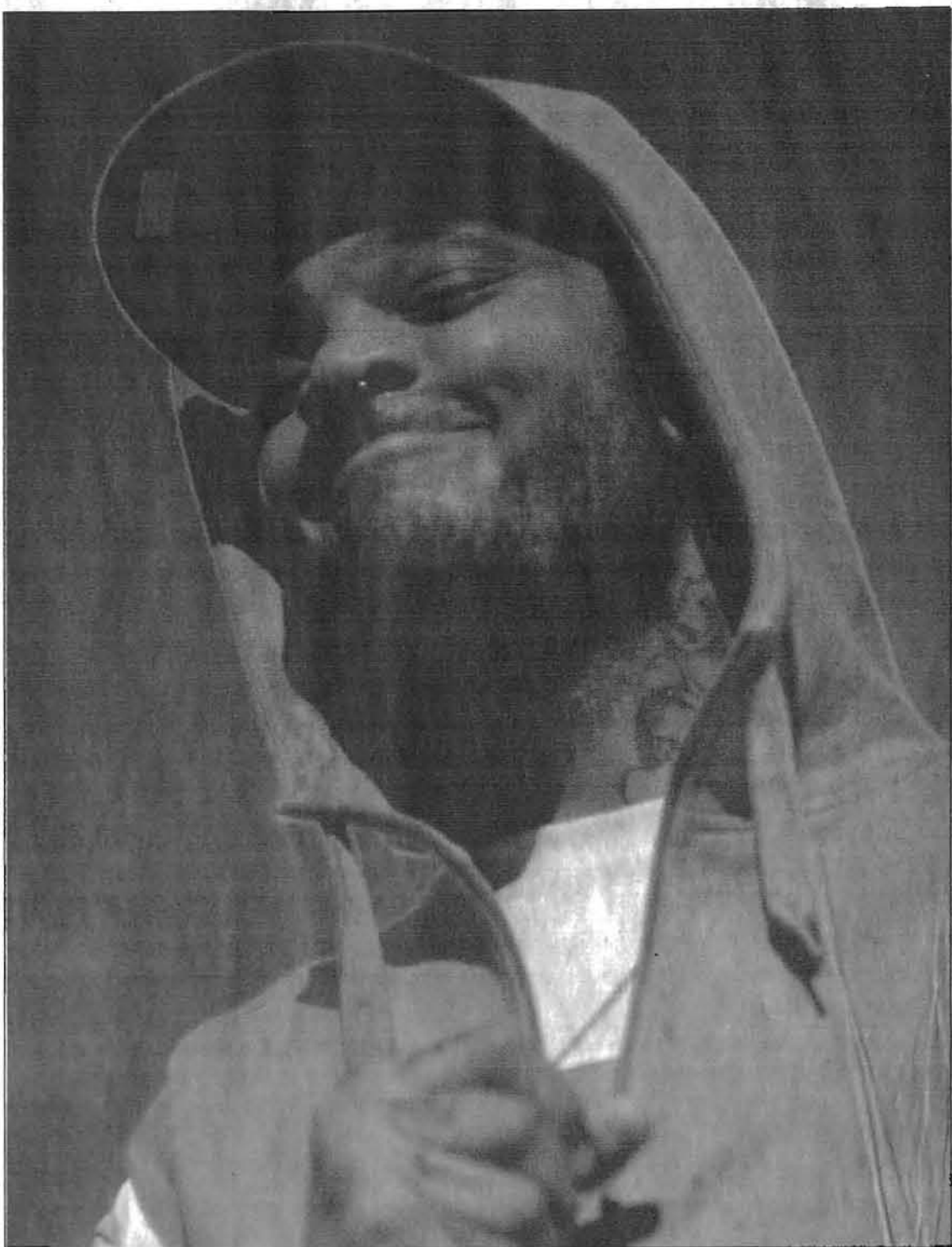
The sounds of Gym Class Heroes was refreshing after the warm-up acts.

First up was up-and-coming hip-hop artist Tyga, cousin of lead singer Travis of Gym Class Heroes. Most people in attendance seemed to enjoy the beats, but the bass drowned out the lyrics to the point that they were indiscernible.

Next up was Kidz in the Hall consisting of front man Naledge and disc jockey Double-0, who should have been the front man as he easily stole the show. This group, while still hard to hear the lyrics, was much better than the first. The DJ used a lot of remixes in between the group's songs. A few of the songs were a cappella, and that is where the group should stay. The lead singer had an excellent voice, but the production team needed either to turn down the bass or get rid of it completely.

I Am The Avalanche was the last opening act, and they came in like a breath of fresh air. After nearly an hour full of hip-hop/rap, seeing three guitars sitting on stage prompted excitement for something that would not drive someone to a headache. This group was more of a grunge rock meets emo punk band. Do not feel bad about stealing music. Lead singer Vinnie Caruana said, "I steal music. You can steal music. Just go to the show and buy a T-shirt and then we're all square."

The only advice to be offered: Next year, bring in a bigger act with less opening bands.



Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Travis McCoy of Gym Class Heroes preforms at the Mirthday 2008 concert Wednesday at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

## MOVIE REVIEW



Courtesy of www.necpublicity.com

Morgan Spurlock in his new documentary 'Where in the World is Osama Bin Laden?'

# 'Where in the World is Osama Bin Laden?'

## 'Super Size Me' director goes globtrotting on hunt for Osama

By CATE MARQUIS

AGE Editor

Sometimes things are said more effectively with humor.

Director and writer Morgan Spurlock, whose last film was the hit documentary "Super Size Me," tackles a subject many have been wondering about for several years now: Where in the world is Osama Bin Laden?

Spurlock has been wondering too. Sometimes it seems as if bin Laden, the mastermind behind the Sept. 11 attacks, is all but forgotten in the mists of the War on Terror and war in Iraq, although some of us still wonder where he is.

It is, of course, no joking matter. Yet filmmakers, dating back to Charlie Chaplin, long ago discovered you can say things with humor that cannot be said as well or as forcefully with a serious approach, and make a better point.

Co-opting the name of the detective-style geography hunt, "Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" takes us on a globe-trotting quest for answers. Spurlock was spurred by impending fatherhood to make the world a safer place and that meant finding the world's number one terrorist.

Inspired by countless action movies and video games, in which the filmmaker learned that one lone determined man can do what the U.S. military cannot, Spurlock sets out to find the villain

behind al Qaeda and Sept. 11, Osama "been Hiding." What better way to do that than to create a video game to hunt down the terrorist?

After reviewing theories such as bin Laden is dead, hiding or in a hospital on dialysis, Spurlock sets up his search for Osama like a video game crossed with a globe-trotting spy hunt thriller movie. The quest has him travel to several Middle East and nearby countries including Israel, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Spurlock sets out to do something similar to "Super Size Me" in this film while looking at the influence of al Qaeda. Like in his previous film, Spurlock uses humor as ammunition, especially in animation sequences, to make his more serious points.

Spurlock is clearly influenced by filmmaker Michael Moore, who pioneered this influential humorous documentary technique. Unlike Moore, Spurlock is far less political.

"Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" starts out as very comical and filled with edgy jokes, but as the film unfolds, a more serious tone emerges. Some of the humor is hard-hitting, especially as Spurlock reviews foreign policy, and a few may be offended by Spurlock's jokes, especially if they are the type that finds Rush Limbaugh funny.

See WHERE IN THE WORLD, page 14

## MOVIE REVIEW

# Brazilian coming-of-age film hits its mark as warm and witty tale

By CATE MARQUIS

AGE Editor

The Brazilian coming-of-age film "The Year My Parents Went On Vacation" weaves a funny and charming story of a boy whose parents are forced into hiding, leaving him in the care of a building full of Jewish families. This humorous and touching film is set in 1970 Brazil, during both the soccer madness of Pele and Brazil's quest for the World Cup and the repressive government's crackdown on political dissidents.

Twelve-year-old Mauro's (Michel Joelsas) parents are such dissidents. His father is a teacher at a college viewed by the right-wing government as being a communist. When his parents decide to go into hiding, they take Mauro to the big city of Sao Paulo to stay with his Jewish paternal grandfather Motel (Paulo Autran).

Mauro, like nearly everyone in Brazil, is soccer-mad and eagerly awaiting the World Cup, where Brazilian soccer star Pele is expected to take their team to victory. Mauro's father Daniel (Eduardo Moreira) promises him they will return in time for the World Cup.

Mauro's parents drop him off at his grandfather apartment building, next to his Grandpa Motel's barbershop, and quickly drive off. Unfortunately, in the few minutes between the end of the phone call to let Grandpa know Mauro has arrived in Sao Paulo and dropping off the boy in front of Grandpa's apartment building, Grandpa dies of a heart attack, leaving the boy stranded. Mauro has no way to contact his parents and has been told to tell anyone who asks that they are on vacation.

Wandering through the apartment building and waiting for his grandfather, Mauro is puzzled to find it is full of people speaking Yiddish, a language unfamiliar to him. A kindly neighbor, a white-haired Polish Jew named Shlomo (Germano Haiut), breaks the sad news and takes Mauro in, helping him through the funeral and mourning.

Shlomo is shocked, however, to discover that Mauro has not been raised Jewish. Disturbed by this discovery, the residents of the building meet with their rabbi to discuss what to do. Someone in the community mentions that Mauro's mother is not Jewish and suggests they send him to an orphanage,

since he is not even Jewish. But the rabbi says no, and tells Shlomo that God has placed the boy in his care. Like baby Moses in the basket, the rabbi says Shlomo must honor what God has done and care for the boy.

However, it is not just Shlomo who takes the boy in but everyone in the whole building. They embrace and feed him, and begin calling him Moishele - Moses.

As he waits for both the World Cup and his parents' return, Mauro befriends the other kids in the building, including an enterprising girl his age named Hanna (Daniela Piepszyk), and develops a crush on a beautiful young woman named Irene (Liliana Castro) who works in the local café. He even joins the Jewish kids' soccer team in their friendly rivalry with the nearby Italian kids' team.

Much of the comedy in the film comes from the kids, their adventures and everyone's high spirits about the race for the World Cup. The comic elements are balanced by the more serious political tensions and concerns about Mauro's missing parents.

See VACATION, page 9

## DIDO & AENEAS



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Lauren Weber (RIGHT) as Dido performs in Dido & Aeneas on April 14 in the Lee Theater at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.



# How much is that Woofie in the window? Arf! Arf!

Proofreader

Using pure Vienna beef, Woofie's will dress your dog anyway you like. Try a traditional Woofie dog (\$2.69) piled high with your choice of mustard, relish, pickle, onion, tomato and a hot sport pepper. You can even get

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Located at 1919 Woodson Rd. (one block north of Page), Woofie's is open from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call 314-426-6291 for more information.

right balance between its lighter and darker elements. Germano Haiut's performance as Shlomo is quite affecting and both Michel Joelsas, as Mauro, and Daniela Piepszyk, as playful and enterprising Hanna, are appealing.

The film is in Portuguese, Yiddish and German, with English subtitles.

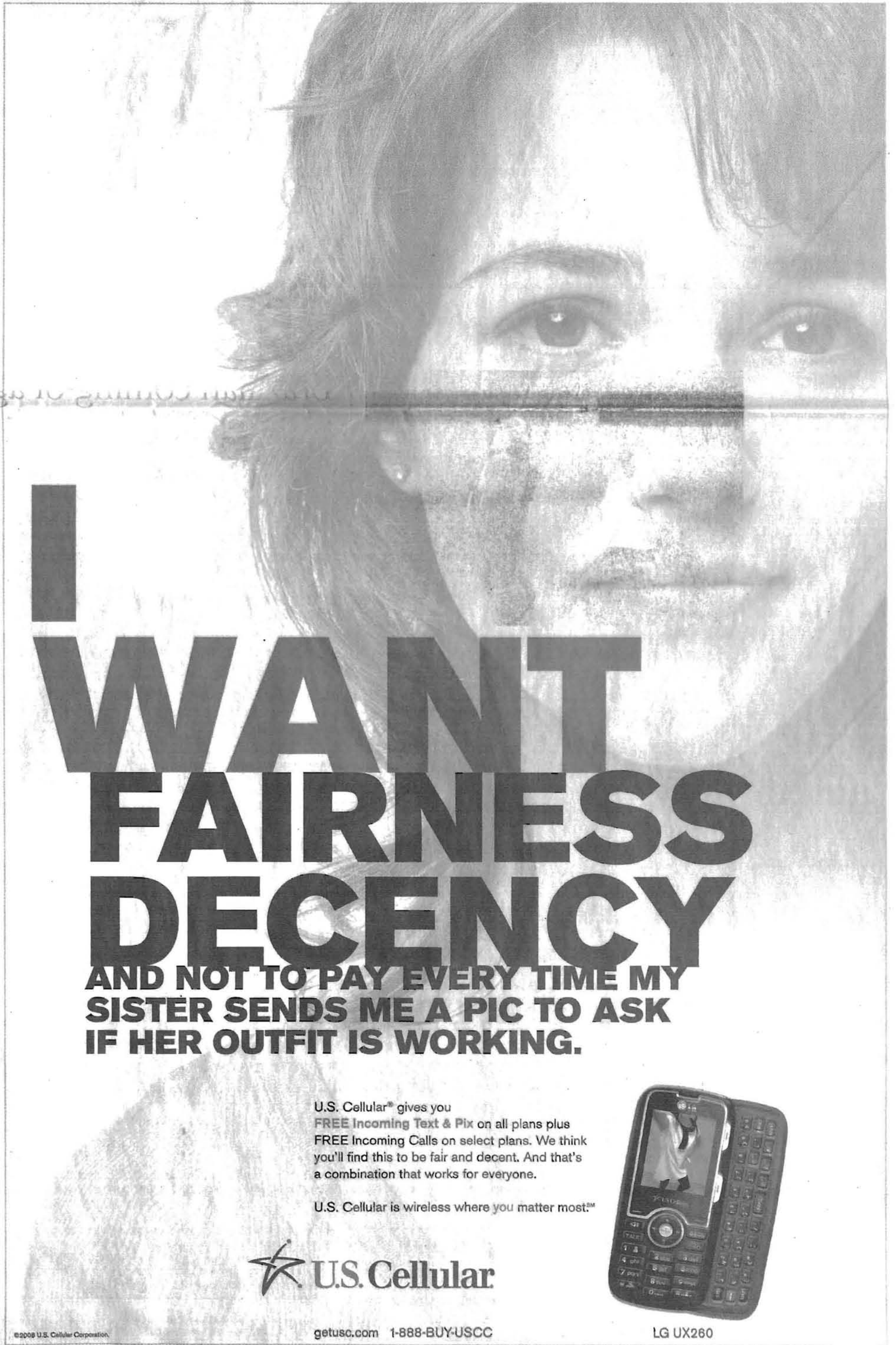
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A&amp;E Editor

Many works are grouped by type or medium. Several graphic arts projects represent movie posters, such as "A Clockwork Orange" (Sean Deken), "Science of Sleep" (Kate Marie Koyama) and "Rashoman" (Nicholas Foster). Posters and maps also included the whimsical "Poster Gasconade and Franklin County Hayride" by Jason Muir and the silk-screen "The Adventure Abroad" by Michael Forbis.



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SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Mark Sanders

The University Meadows legend and senior leader put on a power display this week, hitting two homers, driving in four runs, and raising his batting average 32 points. He launched his first big fly into the teeth of a 20 MPH wind in Rolla on Tuesday, clearing the 366 foot sign down the left-field line. His second tater was a frozen rope at TR Hughes Ballpark on Saturday, helping the Tritons beat Rockhurst 7-6.

UPCOMING GAMES

Softball

- April 22 vs. SIUE (dh) 3 p.m.
- April 24 vs. Washington Univ. (dh) 3 p.m.
- April 26 vs. St. Joseph's (dh) Noon
- April 27 vs. Indianapolis (dh) Noon

Baseball

- April 23 at Wisconsin-Parkside (dh) Noon
- April 25 at Southern Indiana 3 p.m.
- April 26 at Southern Indiana (dh) Noon
- April 27 at Southern Indiana 1 p.m.

# A CLOSER LOOK

## A SPECIAL FIVE-PART IN-DEPTH SERIES TO ANSWER THE QUESTION: Can UM-St. Louis athletics achieve Division-I status?

### PART FOUR OF FIVE: Who's footing the bill?

By Tom Schnable  
Assistant Sports Editor

Having discussed issues like football, conferences and facilities, it is now time to switch our attention to the 800-pound gorilla in the room: finances.

To make the transition to Division-I sports, everything that is required has to be paid for somehow. Let's face facts: none of this is possible without a large influx of cash from somewhere, or someone.

"Money," said tennis coach Rick Gyllenberg with a chuckle, when asked what the biggest difference was between D-I and D-II. But where would the money come from?

The first possibility is from the institution. The school could decide to make the financial commitment to move to D-I. But whether that money is pulled from other programs or departments, or whether student fees were increased, it is likely that one or many groups of people on campus would not be happy, making this scenario extremely unlikely.

"I think the resources would have to

be institutional to a great degree, and we can't continue to raise our student fees," Athletic Director John Garvilla said. "We could not utilize our student fees to take us to the next level. I don't see that happening, I couldn't support that and I would have a hard time believing the administration could support that. Other dollars would have to come in."

What Garvilla meant by 'other dollars' brings us to scenario two, an individual donor. Certain D-I schools have individual donors who are willing to give money to their alma mater for a specific purpose. A recent example is the Texas-billionaire T. Boone Pickens, who offered to pay Kansas

coach Bill Self's salary if he returned to Oklahoma State, where Self graduated.

"There are some institutions where donors will come in and say 'If you make the move to D-I, we are committed to this,'" Garvilla said. "I don't know if that would happen here."

With poor performances from a wins-and-losses standpoint the past few seasons, the argument can be made that before an alumni donor or several donors comes forward, they would want to see success. Very few things revitalize interest in an athletic program like winning. With winning, programs like a booster club or more corporate sponsorships could be established, which are more ways to bring in money.

"I think we would need a booster club," women's basketball coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor said. "Again, that comes with the respect we have now, but we need more respect for our athletics. That happens once everyone starts winning, which leads to more boosters, and more interest in our programs."

"From an alumni standpoint, it's like 'what comes first, the chicken or the egg?'" Garvilla added. "We have not won a great deal in the last few years, so has that affected donations from our alumni? It's hard to

say. (But) they probably would want to see some proof in the pudding."

If the move to D-I were ever made, an intriguing possible way to maintain funds comes from guaranteed games. Guaranteed games are when a large D-I school pays money to a smaller school to play them at the larger team's gym each year, instead of the standard two-year contract, where the teams alternate home venues.

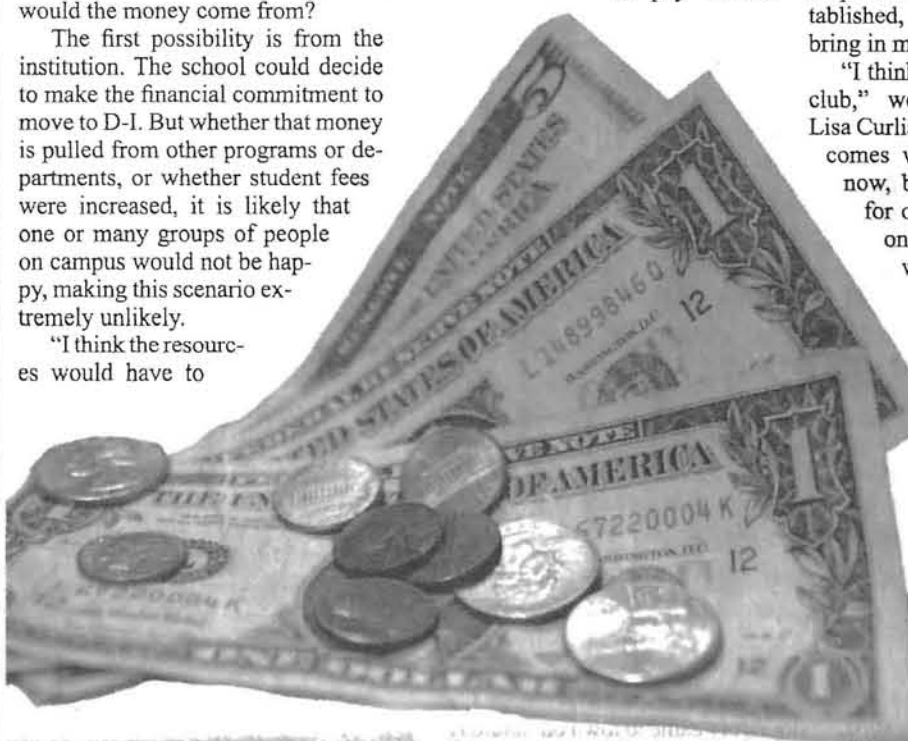
Garvilla cited an instance at his alma mater, Winthrop University, a school of about 6,000 students, where the men's basketball team played guaranteed games with teams in its area that generated almost 1 million dollars for its program.

Considering UM-St. Louis's geographic location, Saint Louis University and Missouri would be two possible institutions that would want to play guaranteed games with the Tritons.

More than likely, if UM-St. Louis made the jump, it would take a little bit of money from every possible source. Smaller amounts could be supplied by the institution and from corporations, but the onus would most likely fall on some of the school's richer donors.

"All of those (resources), including booster groups, grants, alumni backing and corporate sponsorship, (would be needed)," Gyllenberg said. "But it would (mainly) take some individual heavy hitters, not necessarily corporate, but some individual donor who gives a lot of money."

Regardless of where it comes from, one thing is certain. If the transition to Division-I were ever made by this school, it would cost an awful lot of money.



### Softball



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Casey Dierkes hits the record breaking homerun during the game against Hillsdale College on the April 15.

## Tritons shut out Hillsdale College

By LaGuan Fuse  
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis softball team picked up a pair of wins as they defeated Hillsdale College in a non-conference doubleheader on April 15. UM-St. Louis shut out Hillsdale in the first game, winning 8-0 and then went on to win the second game 5-2.

Megan Riggs went 5-6 in the two games combined and brought in an RBI, three stolen bases and two runs and a triple.

In the bottom of the first inning, Kruse hit a RBI single up the middle to give UM-St. Louis an early 1-0 lead. The Tritons added to that lead in the second inning when Riggs hit

an RBI triple to bring home Dana Essner.

Carly Maddox followed that with an RBI single up the middle to bring home Riggs and give the Tritons a 3-0 lead.

Ja Cee Ellis hit a two-run RBI single up the middle in the fourth inning to add to the Tritons lead. Jennifer Beckmann then helped seal the win for UM-St. Louis when she hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the sixth inning. The final run of the game came when Jessica Keim hit an RBI single up the middle to give the Tritons the 8-0 lead.

The Tritons improved to 15-18 on the season while Hillsdale dropped to 7-24.

Crystal Koehler picked up her fifth win of the season as she pitched

five innings and gave up only three hits. Allyson DeFosset pitched one inning in the game and gave up one hit.

Aimee Genter pitched 3.1 innings for Hillsdale College and was charged with the loss. Genter gave up seven hits and five runs in the game. Jamie Vandenburg pitched 2.1 innings in the game and gave up three runs on four hits.

In game two, Hillsdale got on the scoreboard in the first inning, but Kelly Essner hit an RBI single to center field to bring home Riggs and tie the game 1-1. The game remained tied until Casey Dierkes hit a solo homerun to give the Tritons a 2-1 lead.

Hillsdale tied the game 2-2 in the fourth inning after Jordan Kellie hit

an RBI single to left center field. The Tritons came through in the bottom of the fifth inning and scored three runs to take the lead.

Keim hit a double to bring in two runs then Stephanie Kelly hit a single to the shortstop to bring in the final run of the game.

Amanda Seib pitched 3.2 innings for the Tritons and gave up two runs on four hits in the game. Seib struck out three batters and walked three. DeFosset picked up her 10th win of the season as she pitched 3.1 innings in the game and gave up no hits while striking out eight batters out of the 11 she faced.

Jamie Vandenburg picked up the loss for Hillsdale as she pitched five innings and gave up five runs on eight hits.

## College World Series marks a first for UMSL

By Tom Schnable  
Assistant Sports Editor

Two weeks after the completion of final exams and graduation ceremonies, UM-St. Louis will do something it has never done in its 45-year history. It will host an NCAA championship tournament for the first time.

The NCAA Division-II College World Series will be held in Sauget, Ill. at GCS Ballpark, home of the Gateway Grizzlies of the Frontier League.

UM-St. Louis will actually be co-hosting the tournament with fellow Great Lakes Valley Conference member Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. The tournament will get under way on May 24 and continue through the 31<sup>st</sup>.

The tournament, more than just a first for the university, will have a significant impact on Triton nation. Besides the money it brings to the area, it shows that the NCAA thinks highly of the school.

"The NCAA championship committee doesn't give this type of event to just any university," Athletic Director John Garvilla said. "For our alumni to see that something new is going on, and also from the NCAA's perspective, I believe we become in a lot of ways a player on the (Division-II) stage."

Garvilla gives most of the credit for UM-St. Louis's role in landing

the event to SIUE Athletic Director, Dr. Brad Hewitt. Garvilla and Hewitt have worked on a couple different local committees together, and Garvilla said the partnership the two men have formed is a reason why Hewitt thought of him and UM-St. Louis.

"I can't take much credit, other than the relationship (we have)," Garvilla said. "He was looking to partner up with another university to host the event, and we're obviously (partners in) D-II and a GLVC member right next door."

Aside from hosting the tournament this year, Garvilla added that Hewitt wanted a university that was definitely interested in keeping the event in the years to come, since the Cougars will be moving into Division-I next year.

Since the CWS is being co-hosted with SIUE, and since it is at the Grizzlies home, the effort required by UM-St. Louis will not have to be as great this year as it will if the event returns to the St. Louis area. But that does not mean that there will not be a lot of hard work by the members of the athletic department.

"It will take quite a bit of man-hours on the part of our assistant ADs, our athletic training staff and our sports information staff," Garvilla said. "The good thing is, it comes at the end of the year, in late May, when we shut down all our athletic programs."

While the event brings recognition to the school, it also will bring a decent-sized cash flow. Although it is hard to speculate exactly how much money the tournament will make, estimates go as high as the six-figure mark.

"Because of the number of games, hotel stays, restaurants and all those extra elements, I would think it has to approach the half million dollar mark for the area," Garvilla said.

Whether or not the event finds a permanent home here in partnership with the university, for this season at least, the College World Series promises to be an important first for UM-St. Louis.



SPORTS BRIEF

Tritons roller hockey B team bows out of nationals

The season may be over for Division-I club inline hockey at UM-St. Louis, but the B team continued on with its own national tournament last week in Colorado Springs.

The Tritons went 1-2 in pool play before losing to Penn State in the round of 12 during single-elimination bracket play, finalizing their season record at 15-7-1.

Pool play started promisingly last Friday, April 11 with an 8-0 shutout over Eastern Michigan.

Sophomore Cory Purk had a hat trick, and sophomore Alex Nebring had two goals and one assist. Goalie Steve Cash, freshman, completed the shutout in goal with 23 saves.

On Saturday, in the first of two matchups with Penn State, the Nit-tany Lions held off a furious third

period rally by the Tritons and won 5-4.

Purk again scored three goals, this time all in succession during the final minutes, but it was not enough to overcome a 5-1 deficit.

The Tritons had a defensive and almost penalty-free match with UC-Santa Barbara's Gold Squad on Sunday, but lost 2-1. Freshman Patrick McVicker scored the only UM-St. Louis goal.

UM-St. Louis could not get their revenge on Penn St. in bracket play later in the day.

The game was tied with two minutes left after Triton goals by grad student Jesse Wolfersberger and freshman Mike Cash, but two last-minute goals gave the Nittany Lions a 4-2 win.

STATS CORNER

MEN'S TENNIS

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	10-0	18-2
UM-St. Louis	9-1	14-5
Rockhurst	8-2	10-4
SIU-Edwardsville	7-3	12-7
Bellarmino	5-5	12-8
Southern Indiana	5-5	8-11
Northern KY	4-6	7-12
Indianapolis	4-6	6-12
Quincy	2-8	8-15
St. Joseph's	1-9	7-12
Lewis	0-10	0-16
Upcoming Matches		
April 25 at Indianapolis (GLVC Tourn.) 11 a.m.		
April 25 at GLVC Tourn. Semifinal 3:30 p.m.		
April 26 at GLVC Tourn. Championship Noon		
Singles Leaders (thru Fri.):		
A. Cherman	11-2	W-L
A. Dimke	16-4	
A. Chemas	12-3	
P. Hantack	17-6	

WOMEN'S TENNIS

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	11-0	18-3
Northern KY	10-1	15-3
SIU-Edwardsville	9-2	13-7
Indianapolis	8-3	12-9
Rockhurst	7-4	9-6
Bellarmino	5-6	8-11
Southern Indiana	5-6	5-12
St. Joseph's	4-7	11-10
Quincy	4-7	12-11
UM-St. Louis	2-9	4-13
Lewis	1-10	1-14
KY Wesleyan	0-11	2-12
Upcoming Matches		
None		
Singles Records (thru Fri.):		
S. Helbig	3-0	W-L
J. Miller	2-0	
S. Goodman	6-2	
S. Thompson	11-11	
A. Gonzalez	6-13	
M. Striler	6-15	
A. Garcia	5-14	
Y. Takashima	2-13	
S. Davidson	1-11	

BASEBALL

GLVC West Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Southern Indiana	19-4	30-13
SIU-Edwardsville	13-11	19-20
Quincy	12-12	22-19
Drury	10-11	21-18
Missouri S&T	10-12	16-19
UM-St. Louis	9-13	15-20
Rockhurst	8-16	16-27
Upcoming Games		
April 23 at Wisconsin-Parkside (dh) Noon		
April 25 at Southern Indiana 3 p.m.		
April 26 at Southern Indiana (dh) Noon		
April 27 at Southern Indiana 1 p.m.		
HR Leaders:		
S. Porter 3	A. Ford 19	RBI Leaders:
M. Sanders 2	S. Lavelock 18	
N. Gregali 2	S. Porter 17	
A. Ford 2	R. Ayers 13	

SOFTBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Lewis	18-2	33-11
SIU-Edwardsville	13-5	35-9
Indianapolis	14-7	30-21
Missouri S&T	12-6	21-16
Southern Indiana	11-9	28-20
UM-St. Louis	11-9	20-20
UW-Parkside	10-10	23-16
Rockhurst	8-8	23-14
Quincy	9-11	25-17
Saint Joseph's	8-11	18-22
Northern KY	7-13	18-24
KY Wesleyan	6-16	12-28
Bellarmino	5-15	17-35
Drury	5-15	15-32
Upcoming Games		
April 22 vs. SIU-Edwardsville (dh) 3 p.m.		
April 24 vs. Wash. U. (dh) 3 p.m.		
April 26 vs. St. Joseph's (dh) Noon		
April 27 vs. St. Joseph's (dh) Noon		

Tennis

Men's team finishes regular season second in conference

By Scott Lavelock  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team finally got over the hurdle on Friday.

After losing to Rockhurst in each of the first two years that they were in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, the Tritons got that elusive win over the Hawks to finish in second place in the conference as the regular season wound down this weekend.

For the Tritons, who also beat Quincy on Tuesday and lost to Drury on Saturday, it marked their highest finish in the GLVC since 2002, when they also placed second. The red and gold finished just one game out of first that year, just as they did this year.

This time it was Drury who got them, though. The Panthers ended the 11-game UM-St. Louis winning streak to claim their third straight regular season title and bring the Tritons' record down to 14-5, 9-1 in conference action.

The men will have a chance for redemption next week, though. The GLVC Tournament gets underway on Friday in Indianapolis, and the second seeded Tritons will start off against seventh seeded Indianapolis at 11 a.m. A win there would put them

in the semifinals at 3:30 p.m. against the winner of third seeded Rockhurst and sixth seeded Southern Indiana.

The championship will be on Saturday at noon, which could potentially provide a rematch between the Tritons and first seeded Drury.

The regular season did not end as happily for the UM-St. Louis women. They came close against Quincy, winning two out of the three doubles matches, but lost 6-3. The Tritons then dropped both weekend matches, falling 8-1 against Rockhurst and 5-0 to conference-champion Drury.

In Quincy on Tuesday, freshman Stephanie Thompson won both her matches. She teamed up junior Adriana Garcia in doubles to outlast the opposition by a score of 9-7, and then prevailed 6-3, 6-1 in singles. That win moved her singles record to 11-10 on the year.

The only other win on the day for the Triton women came from the doubles team of junior Sara Davidson and Molly Striler, who won 8-5.

The men beat Quincy 9-0, with each doubles team having little trouble disposing of their Hawk opponents. Sophomore Andre Chemas and freshman Daniel Anthony won 8-4, and the pairings of sophomore Andi Dimke and junior Peter Hantack, as well as seniors Boris Simic and Ryan

Burgdorfer, both won 8-2.

In singles, Chemas was especially impressive, throwing goose eggs on his opponent 6-0, 6-0. So was freshman Alex Cherman, whose 6-0, 6-1 victory was his seventh singles win in a row. Hantack made it a six match winning streak for himself, beating his man 6-2, 6-1.

Burgdorfer got into the act as well, with a 6-1, 6-1 win that improved his singles record to 3-2. Simic and Dimke, the top two singles players, made it a clean sweep with their victories.

Friday was Senior Day, with Burgdorfer and Simic honored before the match against Rockhurst. Unfortunately, the match had to be moved off campus to West James Racquet Club, an indoor facility in St. Charles, due to wet weather.

Not so unfortunately for the Tritons, though, both seniors garnered doubles wins that helped them edge out the Hawks by a score of 5-4 to clinch their second place finish in the regular season conference standings.

Burgdorfer and Anthony went down to the wire and won 9-8, and Dimke and Simic won a tight one also, 8-6.

Things were close in Anthony's singles match as well, but he downed his opponent 7-6, 7-6 to improve his

singles record to 14-6. Dimke upped his mark to 16-4, exclusively at the number one slot, after winning 6-1, 6-2.

That left it up to Chemas to clinch the all-important match for the Tritons, and he came through with a come from behind effort that went 4-6, 6-2, 6-1. The win was his eighth consecutive in singles play.

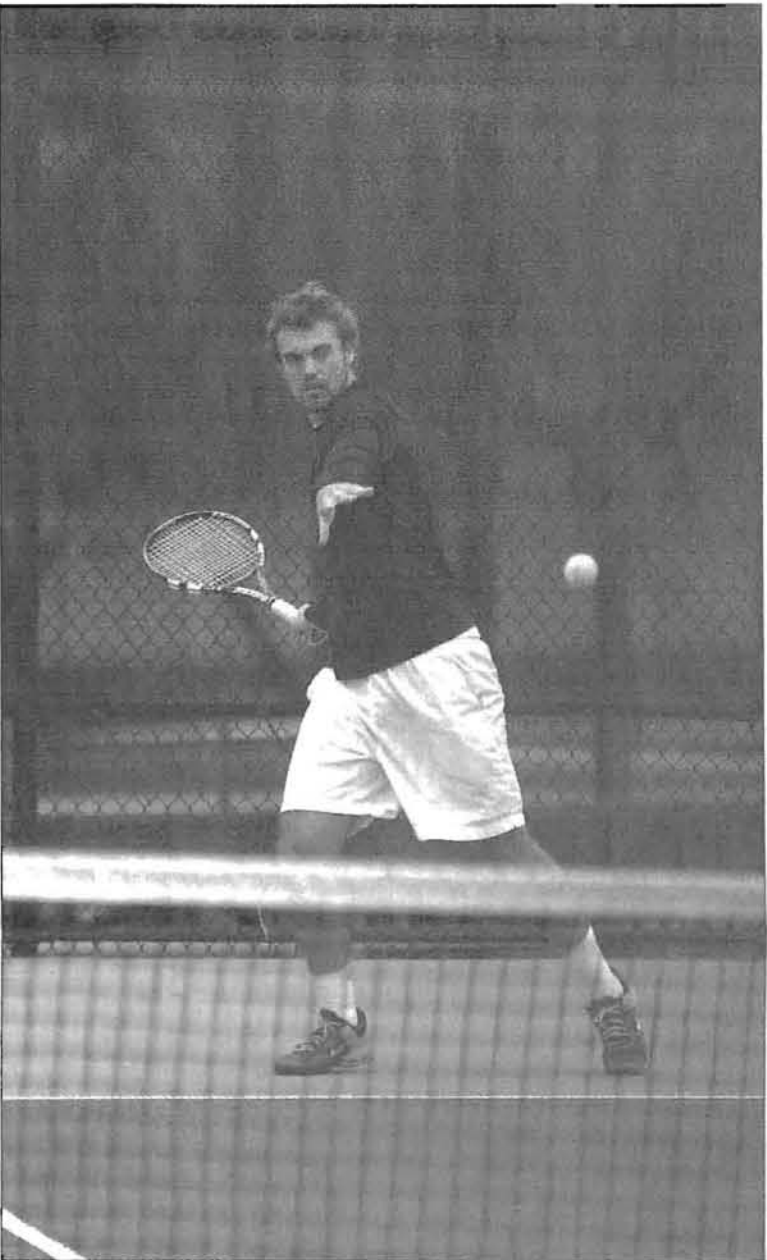
Senior Day did not produce any good fortune for the Triton women, a team full of underclassmen. The lone win against Rockhurst was turned in by sophomore Stacy Goodman, who improved her singles record to 6-2 with a 7-5, 6-3 victory in the five slot. Drury came to town on Saturday, and the teams were back at the UM-St. Louis tennis courts with the dry weather.

The Panthers showed why they are a tennis dynasty, though, winning both the men's and women's matches by 5-0 scores.

The Drury men improved to 18-2, 10-0 in GLVC play. Their women moved to 18-3, 11-0 in conference.

The loss on Saturday ended the season for the UM-St. Louis women, as their 10th place finish in the GLVC was not quite enough to crack the eight-team GLVC Tournament.

They finished with a record of 4-13, 2-9 in conference play.



Senior Boris Simic in action during a match on April 5. Simic was honored during the Tennis Senior Day on Friday. The team played Rockhurst at the West James Racquet Club where Simic played doubles with Andi Dimke and won 8-6.

Baseball

Tritons snap losing streak with 4-3 victory

By LaGuan Fuse  
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis baseball team picked up a 4-3 win over Bellarmine on April 16 to snap a six-game losing streak.

The Tritons improved their overall team record to 12-19 after the win, and improved to 7-12 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The Bellarmine Knights came into the game on a five-game losing streak, which the Tritons were able to extend to six games. After the game, Bellarmine's record dropped to 22-15 overall.

Bellarmino got off to a 1-0 lead as they scored in the first inning of the game off of a sacrifice fly.

The Tritons were able to quickly retaliate in the bottom half of the inning. UM-St. Louis got two runs on the scoreboard after a couple of doubles started the bottom of the first inning.

The Tritons continued to hold onto a 2-1 lead until the seventh inning.

Sophomore J.C. Schute started the game on the mound for UM-St. Louis and pitched five innings for the Tritons, giving up two hits and one earned run.

Schute also struck out five batters in the game before being relieved by Dan O'Heron.

O'Heron came into the game with the Tritons leading the Knights 2-1 and pitched two innings. O'Heron

gave up two earned runs in the seventh inning when Jeff Dillman hit a two-run RBI single up the middle to give the Knights a 3-2 lead over the Tritons.

In the bottom of the eighth inning, the Tritons retook the lead after the rallying to bring in two runs.

Ryan Gray reached on a fielder's choice and brought in Steve Porter to tie the game 3-3. Zach Sheets then hit a single to right field, which brought in the winning run.

Eric Kuntz and John Kalb each pitched one inning in the game for the Tritons. Neither pitcher gave up a run in the game.

Kuntz struck out two of the four batters he faced in the game and also picked up the win in the game.

Kalb recorded his second save of the season for UM-St. Louis.

Kyle Smolek started the game on the mound for the Knights. Smolek pitched six innings in the game and gave two runs and eight hits.

Ryan Krull was charged with the loss for Bellarmine and pitched one-third of an inning. Krull gave up two runs, walked one batter and gave up one hit.

Porter finished the game 3-4 at the plate and had two runs scored. Andy Ford finished the game 3-3 at the plate and had two runs scored with one RBI.

The game's other RBIs were brought in by Gray, Sheets, and Scott Lavelock, who went 1-3 in the game.

Baseball

Red and Gold split doubleheader vs. Rockhurst

By LaGuan Fuse  
Sports Editor

The Tritons split two games of a doubleheader against Rockhurst on Sunday. The Hawks shut out the Tritons in the first game 6-0, but UM-St. Louis was able to pick up the win in the second game 4-1.

UM-St. Louis is now 15-20 overall and 9-13 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Rockhurst is 16-27 overall and 8-18 in the conference.

Kyle Hargis picked up his fourth loss of the season in game one of the doubleheader. Hargis pitched 6.2 innings in the game and gave up five runs on 10 hits. Hargis struck out nine batters and walked two.

Frank Allen pitched a complete

game for Rockhurst and gave up only three hits in the game. Allen struck out eight batters in the game and walked one.

Scott Lavelock, Cole Williams and Eric Kuntz all reached base in the game, but the Tritons were unable to produce any runs.

Cory Coquillard hit 2-4 in the game for the Hawks and brought in two RBIs and one run scored.

Brady Decker (3-5) started on the mound for the Tritons in the game two of the doubleheader. Brady pitched eight full innings and one run seven hits. Decker finished the game with six strikeouts and two walks.

John Kalb picked up his fourth save of the season as he came into the game and pitched one inning.

Kalb recorded one walk and one strikeout in the inning.

James Lewis (6-2) picked up his second loss on the year after pitching seven innings and giving up four runs on five hits. Jeremiah Johnson also pitched one inning in the game for the Hawks.

Rockhurst got on board first in the game in the third inning. UM-St. Louis tied the game the next half inning when Kuntz scored on an error.

Then in the fourth inning, Andy Ford worked his way around the bases to give the Tritons a 2-1 lead.

Ford hit a single to center field to start the bottom of the fourth inning and then stole second base.

Ford advanced to third on a grounder to second before Williams hit a grounder to second base bring-

ing in Ford.

UM-St. Louis added two more runs, one in the sixth inning and then one in the seventh to pick up the 4-1 victory.


The Tritons are currently in sixth place in the GLVC West standings; the Hawks are currently in seventh.

There is still more GLVC matches to be played and the Tritons could still make the conference tournament.

The next games for UM-St. Louis will be on April 23 as the team travels to Wisconsin-Parkside for a doubleheader. The Tritons will play at home again in a non-conference game against Central Missouri. Home GLVC games will resume on April 30, when UM-St. Louis battles Wisconsin-Parkside again.



THE UM-ST. LOUIS SINCE 1966 STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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## Highest GLVC finish for men's golf since 2003

By **SCOTT LAVEROCK**

Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis junior Matt Thomas came within one stroke of tying for first place at the Great Lakes Valley Conference golf championship on Tuesday, shooting just five over par on the three day tournament at Otter Creek Golf Club in Columbus, Ind.

Thomas finished tied for 4<sup>th</sup>, as Justin Hueber and Blair Webb of Indianapolis and Carl Hays of Northern Kentucky were tied atop the leaderboard through 54 holes. Hueber took the title after he hit for par on the one-hole playoff.

Indianapolis also took the team championship, but it was not nearly as close.

They topped second-place Drury by an impressive margin of 23 strokes to claim their 12<sup>th</sup> GLVC title, more than any other golf team in the conference.

The tournament also produced more positives for UM-St. Louis. The Tritons' 8<sup>th</sup> place performance marked their highest finish since 2003, as they try to qualify for the Super Regional Tournament later this spring. In order to do so, however, they will have to move into the top eight in the entire Great Lakes Region, not just the conference.

"Our play in these spring regional events and our conference championship goes a long way toward determining our seed regionally," head coach Dustin Ashby said. "Right now we are on the out-

side looking in as a team, but a few individuals are positioned nicely to advance to the Super Regional."

Thomas is one of those individuals, as he came one shot closer to the conference title than he did last year, when he finished two strokes off the lead and tied for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Junior Matt Winslow also played well at this year's GLVC Tournament, shooting a 74 on day two and placing 28<sup>th</sup> overall.

Tim Swoboda, sophomore, improved his conference standing by eight spots over last year with a 37<sup>th</sup> place finish. That improvement this year helped UM-St. Louis come within only one shot of SIU-Edwardsville for 7<sup>th</sup> in the team standings, after the two had been tied through the first two rounds on Sunday and Monday.

The Tritons were a little disappointed, however, as they had stood in 5<sup>th</sup> place after day one.

"The game of golf is very fickle and from one day to the next its amazing how a marginal decision here or one bad swing there can lead to big numbers," Coach Ashby said.

The two Triton freshmen had a tough time during their first conference tournament. Tim Cochran finished 45<sup>th</sup>, and Ryan Penfield placed 55<sup>th</sup> after sandwiching two solid rounds around a rough second day.

UM-St. Louis will be in action again this week. They travel to Purgatory Golf Course in Noblesville, Ind., where Indianapolis will host them for this year's third Great Lakes Regional tournament.

## JAZZ FESTIVAL KEEPS THE BEAT AT TOUHILL



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Jim Widner conducting the UMSL Jazz Ensemble during the 2008 Greater St. Louis Jazz Festival in the Anheuser Busch theater in the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Saturday.

[www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com)

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# One Time Killer rocks the crowd with metal/rap core

By **LAGUAN FUSE**

Sports Editor

Metal/rap core band One Time Killer took the stage at this year's Mirthday celebration. One Time Killer rocked the stage with its performance and then opened the stage for freestyling with a live band.

One Time Killer is composed of UM-St. Louis students Matthew Amend, Mario Mathon, Ramiro Gamarra, Cesar Molina and Francisco Rivadeneyra.

The name of the band is somewhat coded, but does not leave translation entirely up to the imagination.

The Mirthday crowd may not have been expecting a metal performance when they saw One Time Killer take the stage, but that is what they received.

Following the performance of the Sumer-Disciples, Amend took the stage with One Time Killer and gave the UM-St. Louis a show that will not soon be forgotten.

"Hopefully when they see a band with all minorities, maybe that will help get interest in this type of music," Amend said. "It is very poetic. It may not sound poetic, but it is a very poetic, emotional type of music. So when they see some minorities on stage, who you wouldn't think would be screaming, jumping around and rocking out, hopefully that can unify and say 'OK it is just not a white kid type of music.' Anyone can listen to it and get something out of it."

Even though the lead singer of

One Time Killer is also a member of Sumer-Disciples, the two groups have nothing else in common. The genre of music is different, but the messages of the music are different, as well.

"Lyrically, it really has nothing to do with any positives or negatives," Mathon said. "It is just complete unadulterated raw emotions and our problems and our insecurities, our loneliness and indulges."

"We also delve into emotions, whether it is insecurities, whether it is love, depression or whether it is our political views, we deal with expressing our emotions in an aggressive way," Amend said.

Amend said he chose to use the name, Stife, "because of all of the pain and opposition that I have faced, I used that and turned it into my aggression, I used that and turned it into my wisdom. I used my tears and my pain as understanding and fuel for my fire."

Mathon was given the name, Fammolous, by friends. "Just being in the hood period, people say, 'Hey, O!' or 'Rio' or 'Fammo.' There was this guy who called me 'Fammo' and that just stuck with everybody. We will just add our twist to it."

One of the main points the group is trying to get out to people is that metal music can be listened to and played by anyone.

Even though the music has been traditionally looked at as what Amend referred to as 'white-kid music,' metal can be enjoyed by people from many different walks of life.

**SUMER-DISCIPLES**, from page 6

The Sumer-Disciples focus on the message of their music instead of what is most popular in today's hip-hop and rap culture. They try to get people to think for themselves instead of following the crowd.

"Rap music is so stagnant right now, all genres of music in the last five years have been able to grow, to me, hip-hop has not grown. It reuses the same stuff over and over and if it changes, to me, it just gets dumber," Amend said.

"What people talk about when making it big, it is money or how big your house is," Williams said. "If I can change one person's view, which I have done, that makes me

**WHERE IN THE WORLD**, from page 8

In each country he visited, Spurlock asks ordinary people on the street, journalists, students and political leaders of various viewpoints if they know where Osama bin Laden is, a question that often evokes laughter, but surprisingly, most people are open and frank in their discussions.

In Egypt talking to some al Qaeda supporters, one of the first issues they brought up is the Palestinians and Israel. Yet, when Spurlock visited Israel and talked to Palestinians, they tell him al Qaeda is not really interested in helping them and is merely using the issue as a way to whip up feelings among Muslims elsewhere.

In Israel, both Israelis and Palestinians expressed this view, and one Palestinian even said he thought al Qaeda's use of the Palestinian issue was a barrier to moving forward with the two-state solution and the potential for peace.

Another question that Spurlock asked in each country was if bin Laden is hiding there, prompting some interesting responses. In nearly every country, most people said no, bin Laden is in Pakistan. Curiously, when Spurlock asked Saudis the question "Is Osama bin Laden here?" they often responded, not by saying "no," but by slyly saying "maybe."

Spurlock encounters a few extremists, but most of the people he talks to are far more moderate, ordinary people going about their lives, who reject violence and al Qaeda, even when they expressed

**CONVERSATION**, from page 6

"I just think the program is very beneficial, especially for our international students but for the American students as well," Stout said. "It is a great way to experience another culture right here on campus."

"My partner wanted a Hispanic partner because his parents are from Cuba," said Diana Torres, an ELS student from Colombia with the benefit of a conversation partner. For Torres' partner, becoming a conversation partner was a way to better relate with his parents.

"It's just a great opportunity to talk to people from all over the world," said Anthony Sodd, an international student advisor at ELS. "We always need volunteers."

In fact, if an American student wanted to become a conversation partner today, he or she would most likely be granted one immediately.

"We have so many students who still need to be paired that if you wanted one, you would get a partner right away," Stout said.

To become a conversation partner, all a UM-St. Louis student would need to do is call 314-516-4621, or e-mail STL@ELS.edu to set up a brief 20-minute interview before being paired.

"The experience is guaranteed to be rewarding, and you could even make some lasting friendships, kind of like I did," Stout said.

feel better. More than any amount of money could ever give me."

"The hip-hop culture of today is about the latest song that can be played on the radio or in the club. It is about the latest fad in the music and the popular stuff is really about being gangster, girls, money and all of that stuff," Amend said. "We are not trying to get people to snap their fingers, we are trying to get people to open their minds. If you keep snapping your fingers in every fucking song, where does that get you? We are not just trying to provoke thought, we are trying to stab thought with the sharp sword and watch what happens."

strong political views.

He makes a few missteps, like trying to conduct on-camera interviews with passing ultra-Orthodox Jews in front of their closed neighborhood in Israel, clearly unaware that any moviemaking would be unwelcome there and would meet with hostility from that community, which does not even attend movies.

"Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" has plenty of humor, with some entertaining animation sequences and makes some good points. It is by no means a deep and scholarly exploration, but it reminds us of some things we may have forgotten.

"Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" is a good second film from Morgan Spurlock, showing he has talent and the first was not a fluke. Many will find "Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" a creative, interesting and informative exploration of the roots of al Qaeda's influence, while others will find it too light, and may even take offense that such a serious topic is handled in a humor-laced format.

It is worth a look for its evenhandedness and man-in-the-street approach, although it may be a tad too optimistic. The film is a worthy effort, although a little more depth would have made it even better.

"Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden" opened Friday, April 18, at Plaza Frontenac Theatre, where it is now playing exclusively for at least a one-week run.

## CLASSIFIED Ads

Classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. To place an ad, please send your ad (40 words or less), your name, and student or employee number to [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu) or call 516-5316.

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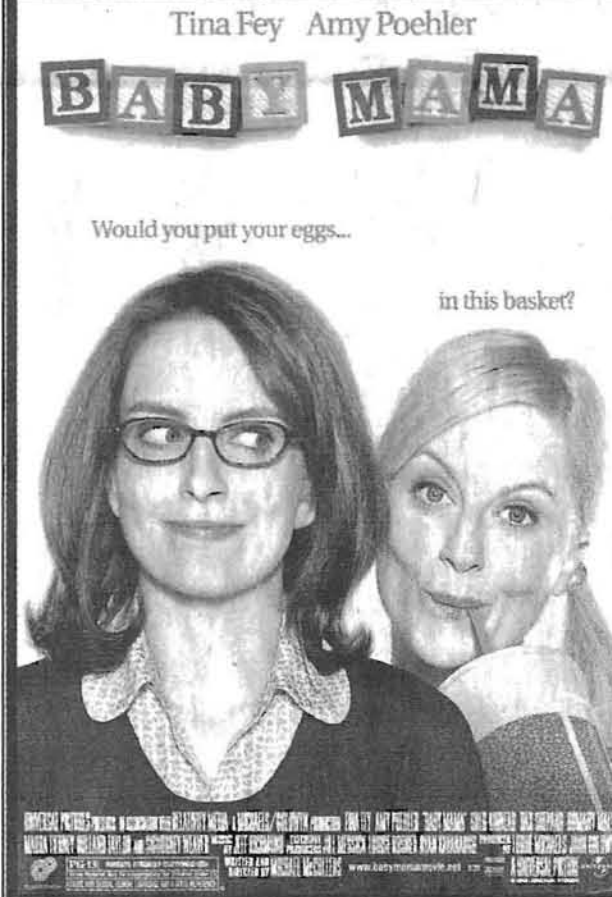
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**IN THEATRES APRIL 25**



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

**Sean Deken, senior, graphic design, and Julie Arbent, junior, painting, discuss the opening of this year's Parental Advisory BFA Exhibit at Gallery 210 on Thursday.**

**GALLERY 210**, from page 9

A few of the works had obvious meaning. "Religion" by Kellie Mayhew is a short ceramic with dark glaze, decorated with symbols of various religions in yellow.

Kaitlin Van Buskirk's screen and waterless lithography print "I Did Not Go," a double, half-lit self-portrait in black and Army green, speaks to her experience as the daughter of a Vietnam War veteran.

Her work "Get the Hell Out," etching and screen print in black and red makes a more modern war comment.

The quality of the exhibit certainly shows the depth of talent in this group of students. If the exhibit has any failing, it is that too many pieces are simply called "Untitled." There one lesson learned from years of hanging around art galleries, something all beginning artists need to learn to profit from their efforts: art works with names sell better.

The exhibit is certainly worth a trip to Gallery 210, located at the Telecommunity Center, near the North Campus Metrolink station and campus security building.

**OLYMPICS**, from page 4

The Ancient Olympics were held on the same ideal, and they were held every four years without exception from 776 B.C. to 394 A.D. For 1170 years, warring factions were able to achieve a truce in a world that was just as vile as it is now.

Boycotting the opening ceremonies would go against all of that, and be an insult to the very ideal that the Olympics are based on. I know that the atrocities that the Chinese government commits are unacceptable, but I truly believe that the nations of the world stand to gain more peace by coming together for the Olympics than protesting them.

There are much better ways that the United States can go about addressing its agenda to improve human rights in China. However, I doubt that Pelosi, as well as other politicians who agree with her, have the same kind of perspective as people who have been involved in the Olympics for decades and know about the principles and history that they are founded upon.

In defense of the congresswoman from California, she is not the only world leader who is making this mistake. And to her credit, she does maintain that America should absolutely not boycott the entire Olympics, as Jimmy Carter did for the Moscow Games in 1980.

This would be a travesty for all the athletes who have sacrificed every fiber of their beings to accomplish something that they may only have one chance in their lives to do. I

really do not think people understand the extraordinary amount of work these men and women put in.

I can hardly imagine how much dedication it must take to compete at an Olympic level, because I know how impossibly tough it can be just as a mere college athlete at a Division-II school.

But even if we only boycott the opening ceremonies and not the entire event, it is still a slap in the face to all of the athletes who have worked so hard to represent our country. Those competitors dreamed of joining the other nations of the world, parading behind the flag that their ancestors died for, just as they dreamed of taking the medal stand after competition.

And the politicians want to take that away so they can push an agenda that looks good to the voters, all for a tactic that may or may not produce any change in what the real problem is: how China's government handles Tibetan protestors.

You know, I cannot exactly picture the Dalai Lama thinking that would be a good idea, and it is even his people we are talking about defending.

So here is a memo to Nancy Pelosi: stick to alternate energy sources, health care and balancing the budget, and leave the Olympics to people who know better.

For that matter, we should just make the Dalai Lama the next Speaker of the House. He is pretty much the coolest guy ever.



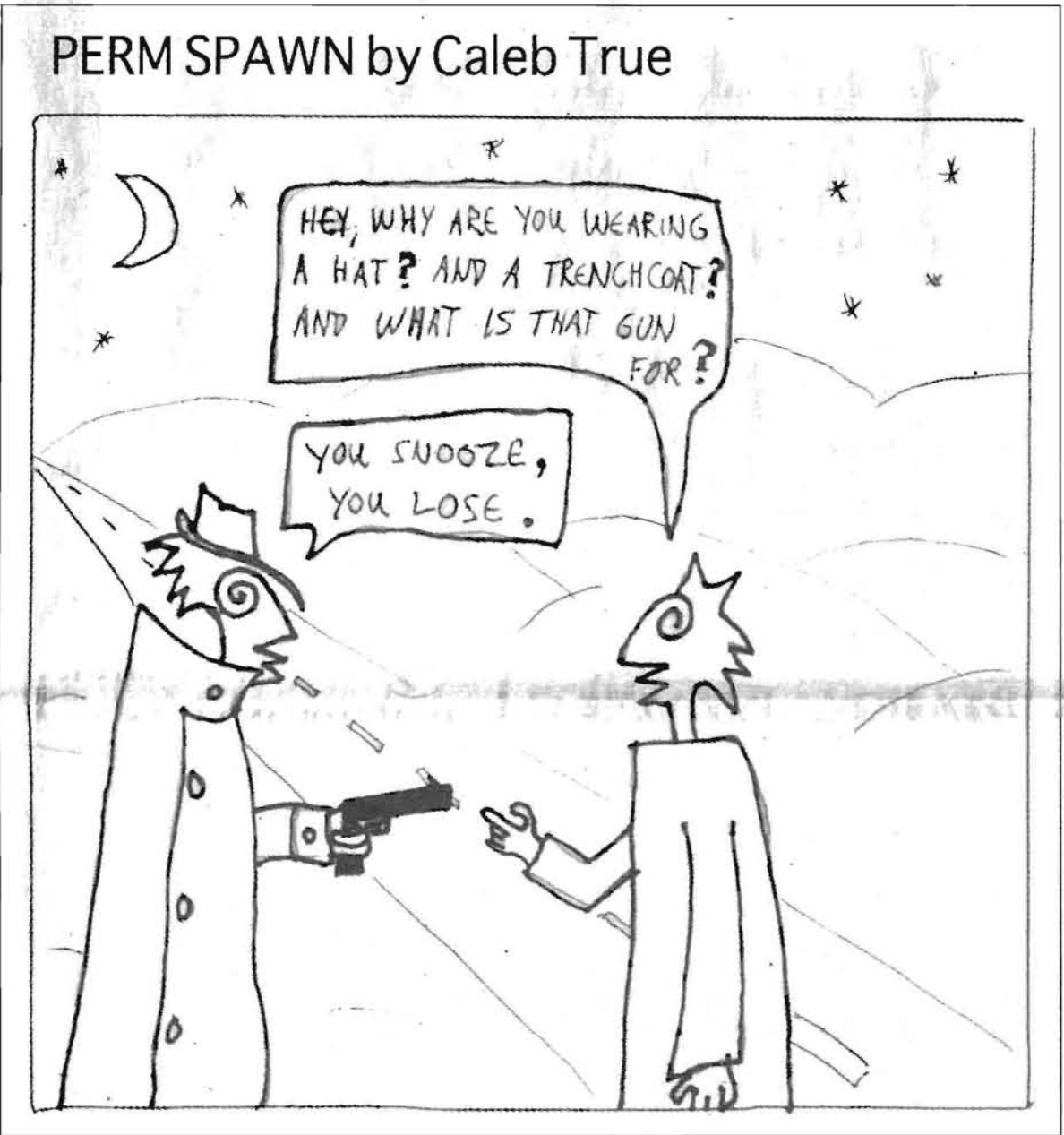
CURRENT CARTOONISTS



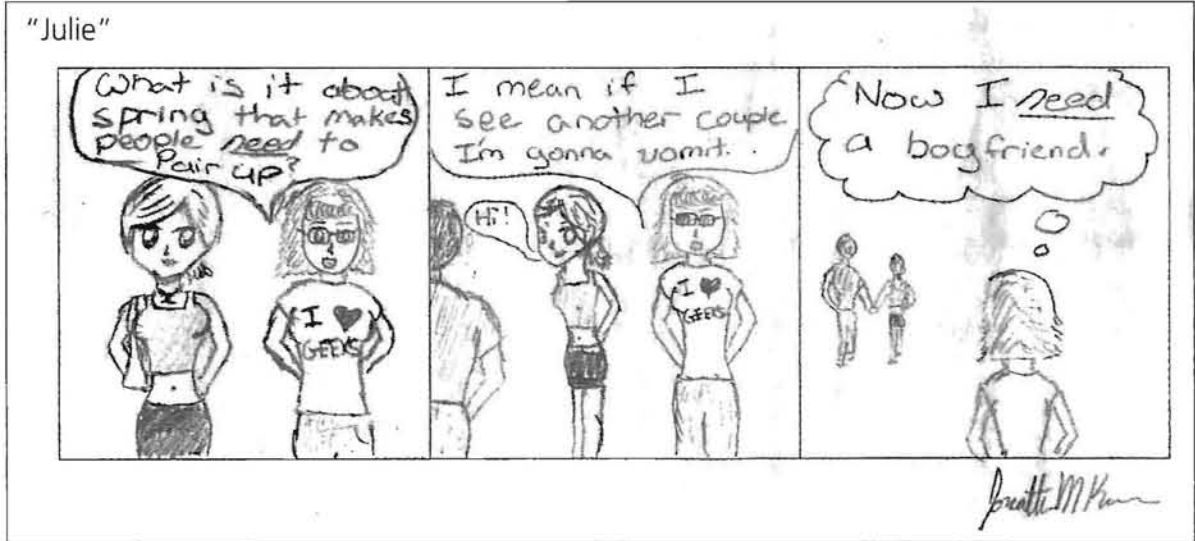
"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart



"Margaret and Hooray" is drawn by Current cartoonist Cody Perkins

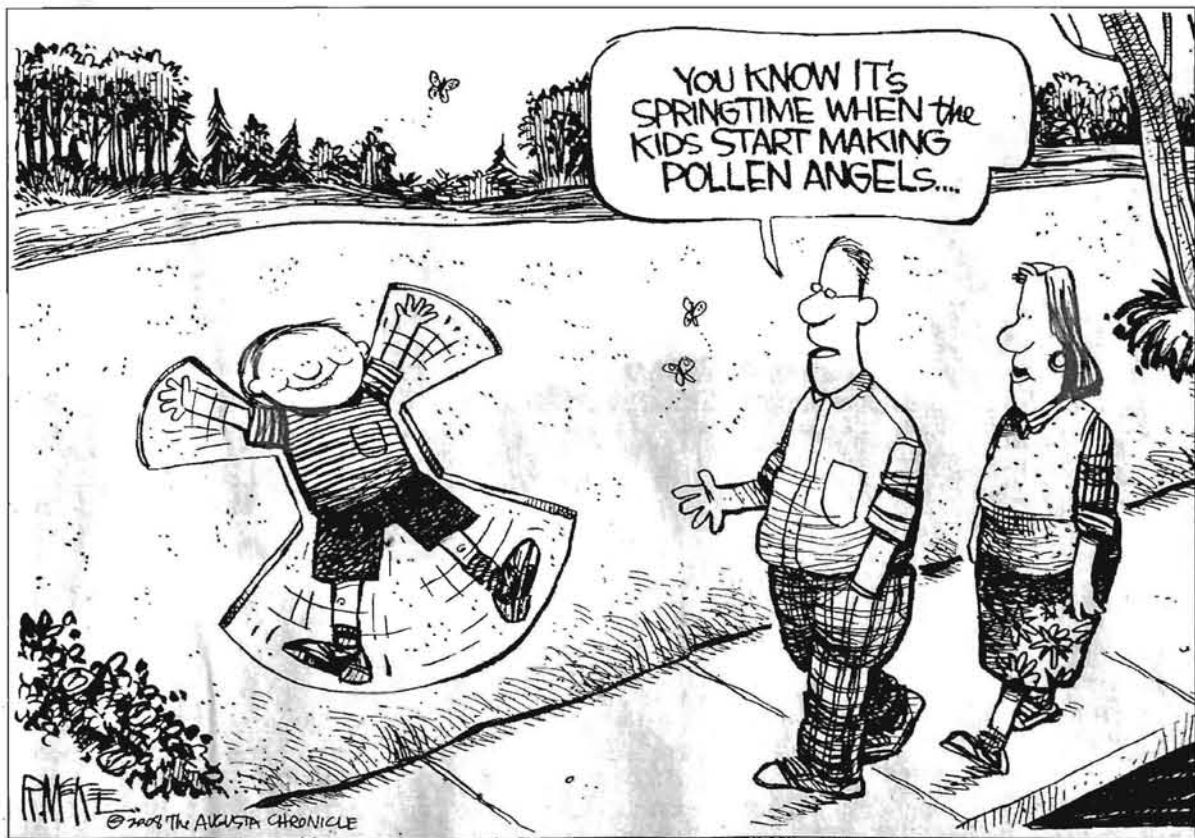


"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True



"Julie" is drawn by Current cartoonist Jonathan Kirner

SYNDICATED CARTOON



Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Dr. Johnson continued to check people's ears the way he was supposed to, but it had been years since he remembered what he was looking for.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 - mater

5 Piglet's mama

8 Carpet style

12 Profit

13 Dance syllable

14 What teetotalers don't do

15 Cling

17 Additionally

18 Claim

19 Ducks

21 Collection

22 St. Louis team

23 Scrooge's cry

26 Slithery swimmer

28 Informative

31 Sci-fi villain

33 Plagiarize

35 Croupier's tool

36 Lily variety

38 Bribe

40 Yang

41 counterpart

43 Robert or Elizabeth

45 "Cheers!"

47 Rug

51 Restrooms, for short

52 Restrain

54 Hydrox look-alike

cries

7 Commonest liquid

8 Soft-shell clam

9 Rule

10 Basilica area

11 The Bee -

16 Gratis

20 Forefront

23 Telly net

24 Carte lead-in

25 Continue with

27 Part of UCLA

29 Tackle

30 Longing

32 Develop

34 Smuggle

37 Actress

39 Incite

42 Lucy's partner in mischief

44 Members of the brass

45 Drop (down)

46 Exceptional

48 Treaty

49 Beige

50 Scratched (out)

53 Lennon's lady

DOWN

1 Ottoman official

2 Cambodia neighbor

3 Wire measures

4 Llamas' range

5 Strew about

6 Surprise

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5			4					7
		1	8		7	6		
	6			9				5
	1				2	4	3	
2			9					6
		6		1				8
	8	9	4					3
1			7			2		
		7			3		8	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

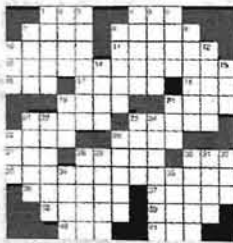
★ Moderate    ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Find the answers to this week's crossword puzzle and Sudoku at

The Current

online.com



ARIES

(March 21 to April 19)  
You easily handle your tasks this week, thanks to those high energy levels that never seem to run down, but pace yourself, Lamb, for the demanding week ahead.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)  
With the arts dominant this week, you might want to pick up any of those creative projects you have neglected. A workplace situation benefits from some fresh insight.

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)  
Music helps replenish your energy levels. Play your CDs if you must, but a live concert could prove more rewarding, especially if you go with that very special someone.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)  
Close friends reach out to help perk up your lagging social life. That workplace situation also eases, leaving you time to do more fun things by week's end.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)  
A revelation clears up that perplexing job-related problem. Some changes will have to be made, which, no doubt, will meet with the Big Cat's roaring approval. Good luck.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 Sept. 22)  
Reaching out to someone in need is the noble thing to do, but try to restrain the temptation to add a lecture -- no matter how well-intended -- to your good deed.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)  
There could be another tough challenge to face before the month is over, but all that hard work is winning you lots of important recognition from your peers.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)  
Keeping to your work schedule could prove difficult with all those personal distractions. Best advice: Stay with it. There will be time later for socializing.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)  
Jumping hurdles this week might be vexing for most, but not for the sage Sagittarian, who recognizes that meeting a challenge can open up opportunities.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)  
More obstacles might be thrown in your path as you try to finalize a new agreement. But the sure-footed Goat ignores the stumbling blocks and stays the course.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)  
We know the Water Bearer takes pleasure in giving to others, but why not let someone else enjoy the experience too by accepting that offer of help?

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to March 20)  
You might find you need to ease up on your hectic schedule this week. Do not fret about it. It could be helpful to take a break and replenish your energy supply.

BORN THIS WEEK:

You have a way of finding practical solutions to complex problems, and you do it with grace.



PLEASE JOIN US  
in celebrating the accomplishments of student leadership at the

# Student LEADERSHIP Awards

Monday, April 28, 2008 at 6:00 in the evening  
Millennium Student Center Century Rooms  
light hors d'oeuvres will be served

## PROGRAM AWARD NOMINEES

- ShantyTown**  
Catholic Newman Center
- Weiners for Seniors**  
Students Today Alumni Tomorrow
- UMSL Sports Tailgating**  
Students Today Alumni Tomorrow
- ABC Presents...Steppin'**  
Associated Black Collegians
- The Great Porn Debate**  
University Program Board
- Wayne Watch**  
Student Government Association
- Vagina Monologues**  
Student Social Work Association and  
Voices for Gender Equality
- Undergraduate Research Symposium**  
Golden Key International Honour Society
- Homecoming: Red & Gold Reign**  
Student Government Association
- Male/Female Summit**  
Helping Hands Student Organization
- Stuff a Bear**  
University Program Board
- Drag Show**  
PRIZM
- An Evening with Nikki Giovanni**  
University Program Board
- Tie Dye Night**  
Catholic Newman Center

## INDIVIDUAL AWARD NOMINEES

- Monica Swindle**
- Cadence Rippeto**
- Jodi Heaps**
- Katherine Moore**
- Keara Wright**
- Dorian Hall**
- Capuchina Taylor**
- Traci Clark**
- James Bryan (J.B.) Carroll**
- Ms. Rochelle DeClue**
- Dr. Krista Tucciarone**
- Dr. Kathryn Walterscheid**
- Jason Rottler**
- Royce Boone**

## ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD NOMINEES

- Peers Advocating Smokefree Solutions**
- Colleges Against Cancer**
- Gallery Visio**
- UMSL Gospel Choir**
- Student Government Association**
- Catholic Newman Center**
- SistaKeeper**

